

# THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

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### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

We understand that the Right Rev. Bishop Bardon has decided to make Shanghai his permanent place of residence.

Mr. G. W. Lake, an American storekeeper, was found murdered in his bed at Chamulpo on the 30th ult. There was no clue to the murderer.

The interport cricket match between Shanghai and Hongkong was played at Shanghai on the 27th, 28th, and 29th September, and resulted in a victory for Hongkong by twenty-eight runs.

From the *Waihaiwai* correspondence of the *N. C. Daily News* we learn that Commander Gaunt has been appointed for six months Naval Commissioner of Waihaiwai. He has made an energetic and capable Warlen of Lungtao and will doubtless in this higher office give satisfaction.

The following announcement, important if true, appears as an ordinary local paragraph in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*:—We learn that a concession for a railway from Shanghai to Canton along the coast has been obtained by Mr. Macdonald, M.P., to be constructed and worked by British capital.

Lord Charles Beresford arrived at Hongkong by the P. & O. steamer *Parramatta* yesterday and goes on to Shanghai by the same vessel to-day. It was hoped that he would have been able to address a meeting during his short stay in the colony, but he intimated that he was unable to accept the invitation.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says that Admiral de Beaumont, during his recent visit to Hanoi, did not hesitate to say that for six months of the year the entrance to the bay of Kwang-chauwan is impossible, being closed by a bar which, notwithstanding its depth of 22 feet, is impracticable during the monsoon.

It is reported in Tokyo that the amended Penal Code, which will be submitted to the Diet at its next session, omits all mention of a death penalty. This of course means that if the Penal Code becomes law in its present shape, capital punishment will cease to form one of the penalties under Japanese law.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received that Chungking is threatened by the brigands under Yu Man-tze and troops have been sent from Cengtu for the city's protection. It is reported that some time ago a Committee of the gentry of Tangliang district, Szechuen, sent by Jen Taotai of Chungking to exhort the Yu Man-tze to lay down his arms, were prevented by him from returning to report the result of their mission to the Taotai and were held as hostages.

We translate the following from the *Avenir du Tonkin*:—M. J. Lillie, our Irish confrere, to whom the French Government has granted a few subsidies to reopen him for having courageously sustained the Anti-English-Siamese cause at Bangkok, will shortly obtain his naturalisation as a Frenchman. M. Lillie will then be able to return to Bangkok and resume the editorship of the *Siam Free Press*. It is M. Rollin Jacquemyns who will have a sore head.

The *Mercury* of the 24th September says:—Sir Robert Hart, Inspector General of Customs, has returned to Peking after a long stay at Petaiho. Sir Robert's health has greatly improved by the change. He is once more back at his post, as busy as ever when the mail left. In the light of recent events at the capital he may require all the personal strength at his command to deal with problems apparently about to confront him in common with all in high places in China.

A deputation of the villagers of Kuntinhu, the place where the Kowloon Commission was insulted and obstructed on the 20th August, attended at the Colonial Secretary's Office on 29th September to present a petition in which they expressed contrition for their conduct and craved pardon. The deputation was taken to Murray Battery, where, after they had been severely admonished by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, they kowtowed three times to the British flag.

We understand it has been decided that the Foulmire case is to go to Shanghai for trial. This is the case in which the accused, formerly captain of the American steamer *Doring* running on the West River, is charged with having shot the comprador. The case originally came before the American Consular Court at Canton. The accused applied for a change of venue, and Consul-General Goolnow, of Shanghai, has recently been at Canton in connection with the matter, the result being that the trial will take place at Shanghai.

The Imperial Bank of China commenced its note issue at Shanghai on the 21st September. The *N. C. Daily News* describes the notes as original, appropriate, and attractive. It is stated in local mandarin circles that the authorised issue will for the present be of the total value of Tls. 1,250,000, namely, one million dollars in dollar notes of various denominations, and Tls. 250,000 in tael notes. Of these bank notes to the value of \$650,000 and Tls. 315,000 have already arrived for circulation, divided as follows:—150,000 one dollar notes, 3,000 five dollar notes, and 35,000 ten dollar notes; also 65,000 one tael notes, 30,000 five tael notes, and 10,000 ten tael notes.

The crisis at Peking has been the sensation of the week, but from the North it is reported that foreigners in Peking do not attach the same importance to it as those in Shanghai and Hongkong, regarding it as one of the palace intrigues that are bound to take place in every Oriental country from time to time. It was at first reported that the Emperor had been murdered, but this has since been contradicted and he is said to have sat by the Empress Dowager's side at the reception of memorials since the date on which he was reported to have been poisoned. The Empress Dowager is now in full power and a steady campaign is being conducted against the members of the Reform party. Kang Yu-wei, one of the leaders of the latter party, was to have been arrested at Shanghai on his arrival from Peking, but he came down on a British steamer, and British protection was accorded to him. He was transferred to the P. & O. mail steamer *Ballaarat*, which brought him down to Hongkong under convoy of H. M. S. *Bonaventure*. He has been given quarters in the Gaol, as the place where he will be least exposed to attack by his enemies.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 25th August arrived, per P. M. steamer *Glenfarg*, on the 24th September (30 days); the French mail of the 26th August arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 27th September (32 days); and the English mail of the 21st September arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Parramatta*, on the 30th September (28 days).



# LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S MISSION.

(Daily Press, 30th September.)

To-day Hongkong will have the pleasure of welcoming Lord CHARLES BERESFORD as a transient visitor, and, it is hoped, of listening to an address from him. His Lordship is visiting China on behalf of the home Chambers of Commerce to report on the security that exists for British capital and to study the situation generally. Speaking at Singapore his Lordship said his mission aimed at focusing the views of Britishers on the spot in order to impress the people at home. Substantial results may therefore be expected to result from the mission, for Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's utterances always command attention, and more than ordinary importance will be attached by the people at home to what he may have to say on the China question after having made a special study of it on the spot.

As regards security for British capital invested in China, in so far as railways are concerned it is to be hoped that Lord CHARLES on his return to England may be able to induce the Government to take a more advanced view than they have hitherto done and give direct Government support to undertakings that are admittedly desirable but which involve too large responsibilities for private capital without official backing. As to trade in general Lord CHARLES will have no difficulty in focusing the views of Britishers on the spot to the effect that the door must be kept open to British goods throughout the whole extent of the empire and that no differential treatment prejudicial to British trade can be tolerated. That is a principle which all parties are agreed should, be supported, if necessary at the risk of war. But when we come to the question of spheres of influence and concessions for public works we find ourselves on more uncertain ground, and Lord CHARLES will have an opportunity of clarifying local as well as home opinion in connection with these matters. If Great Britain is not to claim a monopoly of railway construction in China is she to be driven to scramble and haggle for the contract for every individual line that may be decided upon, or would it be wiser to arrive at some general arrangement with her competitors?

Then there is the question of political spheres of influence, with which that of trade spheres is indirectly connected. It will be remembered that the noble Lord the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs laid great emphasis upon the notes exchanged with the Chinese Government respecting the non-alienation of the Yangtze region as a most important concession and in the way of a pledge for the conservation of British trade interests in Central China. A perusal of the very brief correspondence on the subject hardly seems to warrant any great confidence being placed in the so-called concession, and rather inclines us to doubt the wisdom of asking for such an assurance at all. The manner in which Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's request was received and answered leaves a good deal to be desired. It savours far too much of the haughty superciliousness with which the Chinese Government were wont to address the "outer barbarians" in the early years of the present century and there is a thinly veiled note of sarcasm which suggests that the Tsungli Yamen are laughing at the childishness of the British Government. The British Minister in his covering despatch to Lord SALISBURY says that at his

interview with the Tsungli Yamen on the 9th February he produced a draft of the note he intended addressing to them with regard to non-alienation of the Yangtze region. "This," he adds "was accepted 'with little demur, with the insertion of the words 'now entirely hers,' which, as regarding an undeniable fact, I agreed to 'put in.' The note itself is very brief and certainly not of a character to rouse the suspicions or excite the alarm of the most timid of mandarins. It is addressed to the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen, and reads:—

"Your Highness and your Excellencies 'have more than once intimated to me that 'the Chinese Government were aware of 'the great importance that has always been 'attached by Great Britain to the retention in Chinese possession of the Yangtze 'region, now entirely hers, as providing 'security for the free course and development of trade.

"I shall be glad to be in a position to 'communicate to Her Majesty's Government a definite assurance that China will 'never alienate any territory in the provinces adjoining the Yangtze to any other 'Power, whether under lease, mortgage, or 'any other designation. Such an assurance 'is in full harmony with the observations 'made to me by your Highness and your 'Excellencies."

The reply of the Tsungli Yamen is rather evasive than otherwise. After recapitulating the substance of Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD's note, it proceeds as follows:—"The Yamen have to observe 'that the Yangtze region is of the greatest 'importance as concerning the whole position (or interests) of China, and it is out 'of the question that territory (in it) should 'be mortgaged, leased, or ceded to another 'Power. Since Her Britannic Majesty's 'Government has expressed its interest (or 'anxiety), it is the duty of the Yamen to 'address this note to the British Minister 'for communication to his Government."

If LORD SALISBURY was really as pleased as he appeared to be with this delightfully vague and general assurance, then he is very easily satisfied. The Tsungli Yamen not unnaturally rather resent the supposition that they would be likely to cede or lease a portion of Chinese territory so vitally necessary to the maintenance of the independence of the Empire as are the central provinces watered by the Yangtze. It is true that they had just afforded most lamentable proofs of their weakness, in yielding to all kinds of demands, but people do not relish being reminded of their weakness, and are often even disposed to look askance at any offers of support or assistance in view of prospective difficulties. The Tsungli Yamen practically and in effect scout the idea of China ever ceding or leasing any portion of the Central provinces to any Power, either to Great Britain or anyone else. Do not be anxious, they intimate, about us; we can take care of our own affairs. It was one thing to lease outlying portions of territory to the north and to the south, but they are only leased, and we intend to have them back; but the great rice lands of the Yangtze Valley, certainly not, under any consideration. Yet it is quite within possibility, if China became involved in a quarrel with a great Power, she might, as the price of peace, be compelled to cede territory even in that cherished region, where stands the ancient capital of the Ming Emperors. If that were the case it is difficult to see how Great Britain would gain any solid advantage from the assurance given by the Tsungli Yamen to Sir CLAUDE

MACDONALD. The British Government would no doubt quote the assurance, but the annexing Power would plead that China gave that assurance in the belief that she could always retain her hold on the Yangtze provinces, but the arbitrament of the sword had decided otherwise, and if Great Britain objected to the cession she would have to make such objection good by a fresh appeal to the same arbiter. In short, we are unable to see what substantial good can be hoped for from this note of the Tsungli Yamen. That Board gave it—such as it is—knowing that it is only worth anything so long as China is in a position to say nay to the demands of hostile neighbours. On the other hand, no doubt, they imagined that its concession, couched in the vague terms given, might possibly lead to Great Britain some day being, for the protection of her own interests, obliged to fight China's battles. In the south they have given assurances modelled on the Yangtze note both to France and Great Britain, and in respect of the same provinces, and thus have secured a double string to their bow for the preservation of Chinese territory while in return giving nothing substantial to either of the Powers. Lord CHARLES BERESFORD may perhaps arrive at the conclusion that our interests require something more substantial than mere negative assurances, and that Great Britain has before her in China a task similar to that which she has so successfully accomplished in Egypt.

## THE BRITISH AND FRENCH CONCESSIONS AT SHANGHAI.

(Daily Press, 29th September.)

The international co-operative policy in China is now totally discredited and thrown over, but its evil effects on British interests is likely to be long continued. One of these evil effects is the loss of exclusively British influence over what was, and ought to have continued, the British concession at Shanghai. Great Britain, in the absurdly unselfish policy she pursued after she had by her first war secured the opening of certain Chinese ports to the trade of the world, abandoned her rights over the Settlement she had acquired at Shanghai in favour of a co-operative arrangement under which all the Powers enjoy equal rights. The Settlement remains still distinctively British as judged by the character of its population and the preponderance of its commercial interests, but politically it is cosmopolitan. One of the consequences of this is that the Municipal Council, to all intents and purposes a British body, when it has occasion to address the local Chinese authorities or the Foreign Ministers at Peking has to do so through the Senior Consul, whatever his nationality may be and however small his country's interests. At present the Senior Consul is the Portuguese representative, and it appears probable that before very long the Russian representative may occupy that position. This state of affairs causes considerable irritation amongst the British residents at Shanghai. To Senhor VALDEZ no personal objection is raised, but it is held to be absurd that the representative of a Power having such slender interests in China should be constituted the mouth-piece of a body like the Shanghai Municipal Council. As we read our Shanghai contemporaries, an American or a German, for instance, would be held unobjectionable, for they represent substantial interests, but it is held that the smaller Powers should remain



in the background. The position taken up does not seem to be very logical, for if the co-operative policy is to be followed at all the Powers must be taken as standing on an equal footing with regard to each other and cannot be expected to gauge the position of their respective representatives in the scale of precedence by consulting the Customs returns. Also the representative of a small but friendly or indifferent Power might be less objectionable as the channel of communication between the Municipal Council and the Chinese Authorities or Foreign Ministers than the representative of a greater Power whose sentiments were antagonistic towards Great Britain and all things British. The objection, as it seems to us, is not to the representative of this or that small Power holding the position of Senior Consul, but to the Municipal Council having official relations with any but the British Consul. We speak about our sphere of influence in the Yantsze Valley, and yet our influence over Shanghai, the key of the position, has been reduced nominally to the same level as that of Portugal. The French organ published at Shanghai recognises the absurdity of the position, but says we have only ourselves to thank for it, and jeers at what it terms the party of staunch Britons. Whatever regrets England may entertain on account of her rash generosity, says our contemporary, she must remember the legal maxim that you cannot give and take back again. There is no doubt a good deal of smug satisfaction on the part of the writer of the article, for France has her own concession which is distinctively French. It is only the French Consul that is recognised by the French Municipality, whether he be senior or junior, but at the same time in the Consimopolitan Concession France enjoys the same rights as other Powers, the French Consul, when he is the senior, being the official mouthpiece of what we may term the British Municipality. The *Echo de Chine* supplies us on this point with a little bit of almost forgotten history. In 1854 the British Consul, the late Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, arranged with the French and American Consuls that the French Concession and the British and American Settlements should form one single European town open to all foreigners and administered by an elective Council of seven members. This arrangement, established by the second Land Regulations of 1854 and accepted by the Consulate-General of France, was not of long duration. In 1855, in consequence of the refusal of the British and American military authorities to include the French quarter in the lines of defence when Shanghai was invaded by the rebels, the Acting Consul-General for France declared the Land Regulations, in the passing of which he had taken part, null and void so far as France was concerned, and he constituted for the French Concession an administration distinct from that of the Settlement. Thus it would seem that the mistaken policy of Great Britain at that period not only destroyed the distinctively British character of the British concession, but was also responsible for France's continued possession of a distinctively French concession.

An unusual incident—unique in the history of Shanghai—occurred in Union Church on Sunday morning, 18th September. The Rev. E. T. Williams was the preacher and when he had finished his sermon and before pronouncing the benediction, Mr. Edward Evans stood up and objected to the preacher's utterances. Mr. Williams, who had demonstrated in his sermon that the world was getting better, said nothing and concluded the service.—*Union*.

### MR. MAYERS' OVERLAND JOURNEY FROM PEKING TO SHANGHAI.

(Daily Press, 26th September).

A report made by Mr. S. F. MAYERS, of Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Service, on a journey made by him early this year overland from Peking to Shanghai has just been issued, and contains some very interesting information, the publication of which at the present moment is timely. The land journey of 900 miles, from Peking to Ching-Chiang-pu, was accomplished on horseback, the baggage being conveyed in two carts. The journey for the most part was across great plains the monotony of which seems to have palled on the travellers to an unusual extent, for Mr. MAYERS says, in one part of his narrative:—"The flatness of the plain seems to have entered into the very being of its inhabitants, and its winter bareness to have made their hearts 'despair of lending it attraction.' If, however, the dreariness of the scenery is great, the facilities it offers for the construction of railways are correspondingly large. The railway from Tientsin to Paoting-fu, which was the first stage of the journey, is already far advanced, the only engineering difficulties being the making of provision for the proper bridging of the numerous creeks and canals. The earthworks for the line were already carried far towards completion and this section will before long be ready for traffic. Mr. MAYERS says that the attitude of the natives was one of indifference after they once made sure that there were no possibilities of gain by sale of land or compensation for destroyed graves. An abortive excitement was at one time raised by the gentry or local officials over imperilled *feng-shui*, but the heavy hand of Peking was too near and soon put a stop to all talk. The country people manifest little curiosity or appreciation of the work so far, but this apathy will no doubt vanish when the iron horse screams his panting way across these dreary plains. Mr. MAYERS considers that "the carrying possibilities of this new line are great, and when a continuation is ultimately made south of Paoting-fu these will be increased to an infinite amount, if the actual road traffic may be taken as the best gauge."

The trade in foreign goods at Paoting-fu is large and reaches the city by direct river communication from Tientsin. There is a great trade perpetually streaming over the road, but in spite of this, and of the enormous crops of cotton and grain raised in this region, the whole population, Mr. MAYERS tells us, presents an appearance of bitterest poverty. In the opinion of missionaries who have been long resident in the province over population is the cause of this condition of things. The least failure of a crop means starvation for some of the thousands dependent upon it. There is never anything in hand. A good year only suffices to make up for the inevitable lean year, and a great part of any little surplus the toilers may manage to secure soon finds its way into the tax collector's hands. The system of taxation in North China seems to have been to pile on duties to the cricking point, and it is a wonder that any foreign goods at all can, so hampered, make their way into the interior, as they do in small quantities. Mr. MAYERS considers the burden of taxation to be most crushing, and, unless relieved, it will continue to restrict trade within comparatively small limits. He goes on to say:—"An honest local administration could alone quadruple the prosperity of the people in a year, but in default of all hope of this the railway

"must be looked to as the salvation which is to bring change and wealth all along this great artery of China. It would cross in its course all the limits of inland navigation of the whole river system of Southern Chihli and of Hu-pei, which has its confluence at Tientsin; and it would pass near the great *enterpôts* of the trade of Shan-si, Huai-lu in the North, and Huai Ching in the South." The railway, when made to Ching-Chiang-pu, will undoubtedly prove a potent factor in opening up North China, and will not only develop trade, but it will have great political value in bringing Peking and the ancient southern capital of the Mings—Nanking—into constant communication. At the present moment China is governed by a bureaucracy of mandarins, whose interests are all best served in keeping the sovereign remote from all scenes where he could acquire a real knowledge, from personal observation, of what is transpiring in his wide dominions. The railway may serve to bring the Central Government into nearer touch with the provinces and possibly lead to reforms in the administration.

The country through which the line passes is not only populous but it has very varied productions, and the mineral resources are great. In the hills to the west of Lai-li River, about 110 li from Tientsin, are mines of good anthracite coal, of which some 200 tons a day are now brought down by pack animals. The coal costs one cash per catty at the pit's mouth, but the transport by mulepack to Lai-li-ho increases this fivefold. The coal is preferred in Tientsin to Tongshan coal although the price is higher. A branch line from Lai-li-ho is being made to the mines, which when completed will enable the coal to be sold at a much lower price on the Tientsin market. From Paoting-fu, when the line is continued, it will no doubt pass through the large and flourishing cities and towns of Chengting-fu, Tzu-chow, Chang-te-fu, Wei-hui-fu, Kai-feng-fu, Kwai-te-fu, Tang Shan Hsien, Hsu-chow-fu, Chingho, &c. Tzu-chow, which is a great wheat and timber market and the centre of a rough earthenware manufacture, is supplied with coal from the hills 40 li distant, the cost being 400 cash per picul. Chang-te is a highly prosperous city, with a population of over 100,000, and has a considerable trade in foreign goods. Silk is produced in the neighbourhood and it is a centre for the distribution of cotton, hemp, and wheat. The prices of all foreign goods are, however, very high, owing to the heavy lekin they are subjected to in transit. At Kaifeng the travellers found a very hostile reception; the innkeepers all refused to take them in, and the officials showed intense anxiety to get rid of them. The city is a great trade centre, is very bustling and prosperous looking, with little waste ground, and walls hardly less imposing than those of Peking. Large grain stores and silk shops line the principal thoroughfare, and the flow of traffic is ceaseless. The people of Kiangsu proved far more friendly than those of Honan, but the country does not appear to be so prosperous, and some parts are infested with brigands. The report made by Mr. MAYERS on his trip shows, however, that there is a fine field for foreign enterprise in the country which will be traversed by the Tientsin-Ching-Chiang railway. That important obstacle to the development of trade, the inland "squeezes," will remain to be faced. Until the Chinese Government can be induced to abolish the lekin duties it is to be feared the progress of trade will still continue tardy, in spite of all facilities of carriage.



## PROGRESS IN INDO-CHINA.

(Daily Press, 27th September.)

Hanoi has lately been *en fête*. The annual session of the Colonial Council was held, the foundations of a bridge over the Red River to carry the railway that is to connect the city with China were laid, and there were reviews, balls, and various other festivities. Unfortunately the papers publish only scrappy descriptive reports, the speeches, which appear to have been of prime political importance, being either not reported at all (with the exception of one or two of which the manuscript was no doubt supplied) or only briefly summarised. The *Avenir du Tonkin*, which is violently opposed to the Governor-General, has a sarcastic note on the session of the Colonial Council, which it styles a comedy. The concluding sentences of this note are as follows:—"The destinies of Indo-China are settled, and it appears we have no longer any reason to envy the English, for M. DOUMER has wisely compared the present organisation to that of India, which possesses a Viceroy, like himself, assisted by a Council resembling that of Indo-China." The administration of the French possessions in Indo-China is in fact being modelled on that of India, and apparently with a good deal of success, notwithstanding the carping of the local press, which would like a more democratic constitution. In opening the Council M. DOUMER introduced the general budget and dwelt on the advantages of the financial combination of the various component parts of the dominion, and said that the home Government was leaving more liberty to the local Government-General than had been known hitherto. Amongst the projects he recommended to the Council was the construction of railways. The general budget of Indo-China for 1899 amounts to \$17,620,000 and the local budgets are, Tonkin \$3,993,639, Annam \$1,845,835, Cochinchina \$4,550,000, Cambodia \$1,997,600, and Laos \$692,531, making a grand total of \$30,699,604. On the revenue side of the general budget the principal items are customs dues \$7,000,000 and indirect taxation and farms \$10,094,000 while on the other side we find that the military expenditure amounts to \$3,271,000, the expenditure in connection with the Customs revenue and farms to \$4,185,000, posts and telegraphs \$1,355,000, public works \$3,490,000, and railways \$724,000.

The bridge over the Red River, of which the foundation stone was laid by the Governor-General with much ceremony, is to be 5,510 feet long and 26 feet wide and will afford accommodation for foot passengers and horse traffic as well as for the railway. It is to be of iron carried on masonry pillars, the spans being 246 feet and supported on the cantilever principle. The Mayor of Hanoi in requesting the Governor-General to perform the ceremony of laying the stone expressed the opinion that Hanoi was destined to become the great market, not only of Tonkin, but of the whole of Southern China. At a banquet the following evening the same idea was expressed by M. LACAZE, a former Mayor, who predicted that the work now inaugurated would shortly make Hanoi "the principal centre of all the commercial transactions, not only of Tonkin, but also of those which we have a right to expect from the pacific penetration of China by our railways." Admiral DE BEAUMONT said that on returning to the Far East after an absence of twelve years he was astonished at the change he saw in all the countries he visited, but certainly he was quite unprepared for the progress made in so short

a time by the town of Hanoi and could hardly have believed it possible. Saigon, he said, was a superb French town which excited the admiration of every stranger who visited it, but if Hanoi continued to progress at its present rate it would in ten years' time, when railway trains crossed the bridge of which they had just laid the first stone, be the most important French town in Indo-China. We wish our French friends all success in the development of the magnificent country of which they are the masters and a speedy realisation of their dreams of commercial prosperity. At the same time, while tendering our rivals and competitors all good wishes, it is the business of British capitalists and the British Government to see that we ourselves are not left behind in "the pacific penetration of China by our railways."

## CRISIS AT PEKING.

## ALARMING REPORTS ABOUT THE EMPEROR.

## CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANTONESE REFORMERS.

## KANG YU-WEI COMING TO HONGKONG.

## THE ORIGIN OF THE CRISIS.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

SHANGHAI, 23rd September, 10.15 a.m.

Fairly credible reports are in circulation that the Emperor has been murdered.

It is certain that the Empress Dowager assumes the Regency to-day.

SHANGHAI, 23rd September, 9.11 p.m.

The Taotai is trying to search all incoming steamers for Kang Yu-wei, who is accused of poisoning the Emperor in collusion with Chang Yin-yuan. The latter was imprisoned to-day with the whole of his family at Peking.

Great excitement prevails at Peking. All the gates have been closed to-day.

The telegraphs are under official censure.

SHANGHAI, 25th September, 7.12 p.m.

Kang Yu-wei was taken yesterday from the *Chungking* at Woosung and transferred to a friendly steamer.

The Government declares that the Emperor is alive, but the Reformers continue to be proscribed, especially the Cantonese.

The Censor Sung Peh-lu has been cashiered. Liang Chi-tsao, the ex-editor of the *Chinese Progress*, has been cashiered and his arrest ordered.

Hsu Chien-ying, Wu Mao-ting, and Tuan Fang, the Directors of the Bureaux of Commerce, Agriculture, and Mechanics respectively, have been cashiered.

SHANGHAI, 26th September, 9.54 p.m.

Kang Yu-wei leaves to-night by the P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat* for Hongkong conveyed by H.M.S. *Phoenix*.

A private letter from Peking reports that Kang Yu-wei sent the Emperor a despatch advising the removal of the Empress-Dowager from Peking and the deportation of Li Hung-chang to his native city. The Empress read this despatch. Hence the trouble.

Shanghai, 27th September. It is now reported that H.M.S. *Bonaventure* is escorting the *Ballaarat* with Kang Yu-wei on board.

Yung Lu, the Viceroy of Chihli, has gone hurriedly to Peking, taking the seals with him. Yuan Shi-kai has been appointed Acting Viceroy.

## THE EMPEROR'S EDICT RECALLING THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER TO POWER.

The following is the Edict issued by the Emperor on the 21st September placing the Government in the hands of the Empress-Dowager:—

Whereas there are at present many entangled and urgent public affairs calling for attention

and we are afraid that in spite of our utmost exertions some of these may be mismanaged, and whereas Her Majesty the Empress Dowager has twice successfully conducted the administration since the reign of Tung Chi, we therefore, reflecting on the importance of the Empire bequeathed to us by our ancestors, have repeatedly asked Her Majesty to again associate herself in the management of the affairs of the Empire and have at last succeeded in obtaining her consent. This is a great blessing to the subjects of the Empire.

From this day forth we will attend to affairs of state in the Side Hall, and will go, together with all the high officials of the Empire, on the eighth day of the present moon (23rd September) to congratulate Her Majesty in the Administration Palace.

Let the Board concerned take note and arrange for the ceremony.

Respect this.

## CHANG YIN-YUAN AND KANG YU-WEI.

Chang Yin-yuan and Kang Yu-wei are both prominent members of the Reform party and are both natives of Kwangtung. Chang Yin-yuan was Minister to the United States in 1895, represented China on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and has since held various high appointments, his present one being that of Senior President of the Board of Revenue.

Kang Yu-wei is a Secretary of the Board of Works and was recently appointed chief editor of the *Chinese Progress*, the Shanghai paper which has been constituted an official organ. The following Imperial decree of the 17th September is published by the *N. C. Daily News*, which received it by telegram:—"We are surprised find that although we appointed Kang Yu-wei chief editor of the official *Chinese Progress* magazine at Shanghai, some time ago, the said Kang Yu-wei is still staying at Peking. In our anxiety for the education of our subjects and the difficulty of procuring men of education and enlightenment to assist us in our work we were pleased to find in Kang Yu-wei a man of this calibre, and so as soon as he had an audience with us we at once commanded that he should undertake the direction of the magazine in question, as we were of opinion that newspapers were one of the most important instruments for educating officials and people, and our appointment of Kang Yu-wei showed our confidence in him to undertake an important office. He has now all the funds he requires for his work and we command that he make no further delay in going to Shanghai.

The deceased Emperor Kwang Su was born in 1871. He was the son of Prince Chun, the seventh brother of the Emperor Hien Feng. He succeeded to the throne, at the death of the Emperor Tung Chi, on the 22nd January, 1875, and nominally assumed the Government in March, 1887. He was married on the 26th February, 1889, but has died without leaving issue.

## SHANGHAI REPORTS.

Shanghai papers received on Wednesday contain various reports and telegrams on the crisis in Peking and the rumoured death of the Emperor. We take the following from the *N. C. Daily News*:—

Peking, 23rd September, Noon.

H.I.M. the Emperor's illness is most serious and there are fears that it may be fatal.

An edict has been issued to-day depriving Kang Yu-wei of his rank and commanding his arrest and decapitation for treason.

Another edict orders the arrest and confiscation of the estates of Chang Yin-huan, Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue and Co-President of the Bureau of Railways and Mines.

Later.

All day to-day the nine gates of Peking city have been filled with gendarmes and soldiers to search and arrest all suspicious characters entering or leaving the city gates.

Kang Kuang-jen, a younger brother of Kang Yu-wei, has been arrested and cast into the prisons of the Board of Punishments and will be executed within the next few hours by Imperial edict.

The Tsungli Yamen has been notified by the Ministers of the various Treaty Powers of their intention to send gunboats up to Tientsin to protect their various subjects there.



The Ministers of the various Powers also came in person to the Tsungli Yamen to ask after H.I.M. the Emperor's health and the origin of his illness.

Shanghai, 24th September.

It is also reported that Wu Mao-t'ing (Wu Jim-pah) has been cashiered and his property confiscated by verbal command of the Empress-Dowager, on the ground that he belongs to the faction of Kang Yu-wei and Chang Yin-huan.

It is believed that the Emperor was murdered on the 21st instant.

One story is that when the Emperor fell sick a few days ago, the Empress Dowager, in her anxiety for his Majesty, closely questioned the eunuchs who personally waited upon the Emperor as to what his Majesty had eaten or drunk or done to bring the illness about, and under torture a eunuch, evidently "put up" to it, stated that "one day he was desired by Kang Yu-wei to present to the Emperor a couple of pills which had the virtue of restoring strength to his Majesty whenever he felt tired out with his multitudinous duties." The pills being duly presented, "his Majesty kept them for a few days until the other day, when being much harassed and tired out with reading memorials and considering them, his Majesty commanded that the pills be brought to him. These he took, using ordinary tea to take them down. He indeed felt brightened up considerably, but at night, shortly after retiring, his Majesty became feverish, continuing so until the day of the Empress Dowager's enquiry. As soon, therefore, as her Majesty received this information she ordered the Board of Punishments, the commandant of the Peking Gendarmerie, and the Governor Adjunct and Governor of Peking to arrest Kang Yu-wei at once. This is one of the stories now current about the cause of the Emperor's illness and the consequent intention to arrest the "Modern Sage."

Later news to hand from the north reports that H.E. Chang Yin-huan, Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue and Co-President of the Board of Control of Railways and Mines, has already been impeached in connection with the illness of the Emperor and was cast into prison yesterday. Peking must be in a state of semi-revolution also, for it is reported that all the nine gates of the capital were closed all day in order to enable a house-to-house search to be made for the supposed accomplices of Kang Yu-wei and Chang Yin-huan.

The first thought when the news came of the deposition of the Emperor and the return to power of the Empress-Dowager was that this was another move in the game of chess that has been in progress in Peking between Sir Claude Macdonald and M. Pavloff. Sir Claude's last move was the dismissal of Li: M. Pavloff replies with the deposition of the Emperor, and the re-instatement of the Empress-Dowager with her faithful henchman Li. The Chinese, however, seem to think that the Empress will not dare to reinstate Li, as his name stinks in the nostrils of all her subjects. Nor will she dare to entirely undo the good work the Emperor began with, for his own safety, too much zeal. There is a belief among many well-informed Chinese that the deposition of the Emperor is the work of the Imperial Clansmen whom the Emperor, in his zeal for retrenchment and reform, has been cashiering and dismissing. The work that the Emperor has done in the last few months has made him popular all over China, and it will not be surprising if his deposition and the re-accession of his ambitious and unscrupulous aunt are followed by rebellions all over the empire. That it is a terrible blow for the country and all those who really wish well to it cannot be doubted for a moment. Of course, it may suit the Russian game; the Russians will not be sorry to see their tool Li Hung-chang again in a position where he can further their plans for the Russification of China, and if the contemplated disorder should extend to the capital, they can march thither the troops that they have in readiness at Port Arthur, and re-establish order. If this possible programme is carried out, and if rebellions break out as they are very likely to do, in the centre of China, it will give Lord Salisbury the opportunity to lay a firm hold on the Yangtze Valley.

The *Mercury* of the 24th September says:—It is a well-known fact that if an Emperor or

Empress dies in China the news of the death is never given out at once. It is first stated that the Royal personage is very ill, or, if an Emperor, that he has abdicated; then reports leak out that he is dead, or is dying, which at first are denied. Subsequently, in about a week, or sometimes a much longer period, after it is settled who is to ascend the throne, the news is made public. Many well informed persons, as well as high native and foreign officials, believe that the young Emperor, Kuang Hsu, is dead and that he has been poisoned, whilst others are quite as certain that he is still alive. In fact it is stated that official telegrams were received in Shanghai last night stating that an audience was held yesterday, when the Empress-Dowager took over the reins of Government, and that the Emperor was present to make his obeisance to her. The Empress-Dowager has for some time been most anxious about the Empire, and has been of the opinion that Emperor Kuang Hsu is not a fit person to govern China, and she has openly expressed the view that the best thing that could happen is for him to abdicate the Throne in favour of the grandson of Prince Kung. It is stated that the Emperor was poisoned on the 21st inst., and that the news of his death has not yet been made public, also that the official intimation will not be given till it has been fully decided who shall succeed him.

#### THE SEARCH FOR KANG YU-WEI. HIS ESCAPE.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 24th September says:—In connection with the rumoured assassination of the Emperor, a number of native detectives under the command of the inspector of river police, boarded the *El Dorado* at Gough Island from the Customs launches. They were in search of Kang Yu-wei, of whom they had a photograph, and who is said to have given poisonous pills to His Imperial Majesty. The ship was searched, but no one answering to Kang Yu-wei's description was on board. The *Fuping* was also boarded and searched, but again without success.

The *Mercury* of the same evening says:—Kang Yu-wei, the Cantonese official who is badly "wanted" by the Chinese in connection with the alleged poisoning of the Emperor, has escaped and is at present under the protecting folds of the British flag. Not arriving by the steamers *Hsinchi* and *Eldorado* as was expected it was thought he would come by either the *Fungshun* or the *Chungking*. The surmises of the Taotai were correct so far as the latter steamer is concerned. The fugitive arrived this afternoon. The *Fungshun* being a Chinese steamer was searched, but with no result other than awakening the suspicions of the native passengers. As the *Chungking* steamed to the wharf the Taotai was there to meet her, having been waiting in his carriage for nearly two hours. The French Police were also in attendance with detectives, native and foreign, from our own Municipal Police force. But they might well have been absent, for Kang Yu-wei left the *Chungking* at Woosung in a steam launch which was in waiting. He was then transferred to H.M.S. *Esk*, which left here at 3.30 this morning obviously for the purpose of affording Kang a temporary asylum. He is by this time in all probability well out to sea on his way to Hongkong, where, of course, he will be beyond the reach of the Chinese, that is providing he does not fall a victim to hired assassins. Kang Yu-wei travelled as any ordinary Chinaman with the usual large quantity of baggage. This he did not take with him, but left it on board the ship, where it was taken charge of by Consul Bourne and was all removed to the British Consulate here.

The coup is certainly a bold one and it is hoped that the success, which has so far attended it, will be maintained. There were several foreigners on the steam-launch at Woosung which transferred Kang Yu-wei to the *Esk*.

#### CANTON REPORTS.

The Canton vernacular paper *Chung Shi Yet Pao* of the 27th September says that from enquiry made it learns that H.E. the Viceroy of Canton has sent a telegram to Peking to inquire after the health of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Kwang Su, to which he received a reply from the Tsungli Yamen saying that

His Imperial Majesty is well. Another report published by the *Ling Hoy Yet Pao* is to the effect that His Imperial Majesty is ill, and that H.E. the Viceroy despatched at once Prefect Loo to Peking as an expert, to give his medical aid to His Imperial Majesty, who has been ill since the 4th moon.

#### LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AT SINGAPORE.

##### HIS VIEWS ON THE CHINA QUESTION.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS,"  
SINGAPORE, 24th September.

Lord Charles Beresford on his arrival was met by the Acting Governor and Delegates from the Chamber of Commerce and Straits Settlements Association. He dined at Government House and afterwards addressed a crowded meeting. The position in China, he said, was critical for British trade. His mission aims at focusing the views of Britishers on the spot in order to impress the people at home. He advocates a commercial alliance between Great Britain and Germany and states that Japan is bound to advance. Peace is Great Britain's chief interest. Such a union as he recommends would be irresistible and a political alliance might be the possible outcome. Adequate security must be given for capital invested in China. The waterways should be developed and the observance of treaty provisions and the tariffs insisted upon.

#### THREATENED ATTACK ON CHUNGKING. SITUATION CRITICAL.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS,"  
Shanghai, 29th September.

Chungking wires that the situation there is critical.

The brigands threaten to attack Chungking to-morrow.

The natives are much alarmed.

After much delay troops are coming from Chengtu.

#### THE INTERPOL CRICKET MATCH AT SHANGHAI.

The match was commenced at Shanghai on Tuesday, 27th September. The weather was fine and the pitch good but bumpy. Hongkong won the toss and in their first innings made 172.

At the close of the day's play Shanghai had made 134 for seven wickets.

On Wednesday the weather was again fine and the pitch good but bumpy.

Shanghai continued their first innings and made a total of 203.

Hongkong then went in for their second innings and scored 126.

At the close of the day's play Shanghai in their second innings had scored 39 for five wickets.

On Thursday morning the remaining Shanghai wickets were captured and at noon a telegram was despatched stating that Hongkong had won by 28 runs.

The following telegram was despatched on behalf of the Cricket Club to Dr. Lawson, Captain of the Hongkong team:

"Cricket Club to a man heartily congratulate you on a very plucky victory."

The following later telegram dated 3.17 p.m. was received:—

"Bowling Analysis: Lethbridge nine for 75, Langhorne seven for 48.

"Glorious finish."

The following are the Hongkong scores:—

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Lowson, caught	14	Dyson, out	16
Langhorne, caught	8	Langhorne, run out	0
Moberly, bowled	32	Moberly, caught	1
Campbell, (?) out	32	Campbell, bowled	43
Anton, caught	26	Arthur, bowled	26
Lethbridge, caught	15	Anton, caught	25
Arthur, caught	26	Lowson, caught	9
Ward, caught	2	Lethbridge, caught	0
Vallings, caught	6	Ward, bowled	0
Davies, caught	6	Vallings, not out	2
Dyson, not out	5	Davies, bowled	4
Total	172	Total	126



The following notes on the Shanghai players appear in the *N. C. Daily News*—

E. O. Cumming.—A fair bat, but ought to put more "beef" into his play; can bowl if required. Weak in fielding, but this is chiefly due to slackness.

G. C. Dew.—A free bat. Is too fond of trying to pull a straight ball; a fair medium paced bowler. Smart in the field.

R. C. Farbridge.—Has not played much this season owing to ill health. A dangerous bat when in form. Can field anywhere.

W. H. Jackson.—A free hitting bat. Bowls well rather over medium pace. Should learn to play a losing game with more heart.

A. E. Lanning.—The steadiest bat in the team. With more strength and age should make a fine player. Keeps wicket fairly well.

G. F. Lanning.—A most promising batsman and good field. Fair change bowler.

J. Mann.—A most punishing bat, but hardly gives himself enough time to settle down. Undoubtedly the best bowler in the XI. on his day being well nigh unplayable. Should make more certain of a catch.

E. R. Morris.—Got into the XI. on the strength of one good innings. A fair change bowler, but uncertain in the field.

W. H. Moule.—The most brilliant batsman in Shanghai. Hits splendidly all round the wicket. Is a consistent scorer, can bowl as a change, a sure catch, and safe field anywhere.

T. Wallace.—A most useful all round man. A splendid field in the country.

W. J. Tyack (Captain).—A good all-round cricketer. Is an excellent judge of the game. A fine free batsman, who gets his runs quickly. Bowls a most deceptive ball and can field anywhere.

## THE POSITION AT MANILA.

### HARMONIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN AMERICANS AND INSURGENTS.

#### THE CUSTOMS QUESTION.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 26th September.

Admiral Dewey is not sleeping. The blockade of Manila may be over but the ships of his fleet are always in readiness for any work that may be required whether acting on the moment or executing some carefully planned order. This is why the steamer *Abbas* has been seized by his command and a prize crew placed on board of her. When the *McCulloch* came steaming up the bay yesterday with the *Abbas* not far away it did not take long for the news to reach Manila that the latter had been captured on the information that she was being used to smuggle arms from Shanghai and Hongkong into the Philippines, which is contrary both to American and Spanish regulations for the islands. The seizure was the chief topic of discussion from the headquarters down to corner groups of soldiers and natives.

Ever since I first wrote you to the effect that arms were being smuggled into the lesser ports of Luzon, all sorts of rumours have been floating around, with apparently very good evidence of their reliability, and everybody has wondered why nothing has been done to check such illicit imports. A last action has been taken. When the Admiral received what he deemed responsible reports on the whereabouts of a smuggling vessel he sent out the *McCulloch* with instructions to bring her in at all hazards. Captain Hooper of the *McCulloch* is an old experienced hand in watching coast lines for similarly engaged craft and when he went out on his mission the Admiral was sure that if anything was in sight anywhere Hooper would capture it. While the *Abbas* was not caught in *flagrante delicto* and had at the time only about 25 stands of rifles aboard, there was abundant evidence that she had already landed her contraband goods. She was found in one of the lesser harbours along the coast well hidden from ordinary passing vessels. She is now in the hands of a prize crew.

The Cortes case, as it is commonly designated, is attracting much attention here. The Cortes family is well known in Philippine circles in Hongkong because some of its principal members have lived the last two

years there. It is one of the oldest and richest families in the islands and the different branches of it have always held a prominent place among the best class of natives and been respected by the Spaniards as well. Like many other well-to-do natives they fell under the ban of Spain's suspicion and without reason and proof the heads of the house were accused and even tried for all sorts of crimes and trumped up charges as an excuse for getting rid of them or seizing their property. In the meantime the insurrection came on and the Cortes family left the Philippines. Their affairs were in the hands of an agent. The Spanish officials removed him and appointed their own administrator, taking possession of and practically confiscating the vast estate of the Cortes, which amounted in value to a sum of over one million dollars. The Cortes, however, undertook to recover their property and the case was finally appealed to Madrid. There, I am told, the final high court issued a decree ordering the Governor-General to return the estates, including houses, farms, sugar plantations, fishing grounds, &c., to the Cortes family provided they swore allegiance to Spain within six months after notification of the decree. For various reasons, such as a misunderstanding as to terms of the order and the time named, as well as the complications of the insurrection followed by the war between the United States and Spain, the property was never turned over to them and now they seek to recover the same through the American Authorities. Their cause is undoubtedly a fair one and they will eventually be given justice.

The relations between Aguinaldo and his forces and leaders on one side and the Americans on the other are now excellent. There is little or no difficulty at present and good feeling seems to prevail. It was fortunate that the insurgents marched out of Manila. With the occasion for friction removed no more friction has occurred of any importance. American citizens or officers who visit Malolos, Aguinaldo's capital, are treated with all courtesy and there is no indication of suspicion, but rather one of kindly interest. Of course no one can tell what the future may bring forth, but present news points to a permanent condition of peace with the natives provided the counsels of diplomacy and calm judgment prevail not only among the Americans but among the insurgents. There is undoubtedly a certain military element among the Americans, arriving here too late for combat with the Spaniards, that would not dislike a brush with the natives if the latter provoked it, and such element naturally pictures Aguinaldo as being worse than he really is and his army as being stronger and larger than it actually is, so that in case of collision where the Americans would surely be victorious they would gain glory which would not be deserved if the real facts were understood. Likewise Aguinaldo has some leaders like Pilar in the vicinity of Paco and Maculus at Tarlac who, foolish in their own ignorance and puffed up by false pride, refuse to obey all the commands of Aguinaldo and may yet bring him into serious trouble despite his own wishes and plans. Aguinaldo himself, I am convinced, is using his influence in the right way.

In a recent issue of the *Press* was a long extract from an alleged private letter printed in a Singapore paper, purporting to tell the truth about many points not before clear. The tone of it showed that the writer sympathized with the natives, wished to criticise the Americans, and both generally and specially endeavoured to tell the story from a very personal standpoint. All I have to say is that, among all the reports of the capture of Manila that I have read, including descriptions of the whole situation, none were more prejudiced and partial than this alleged private letter. This permits me to warn people in Hongkong, Singapore, and Shanghai against all intensely told and coloured stories of affairs in and about Manila. The air is full of all kinds of rumours, most of which are made up from the imaginations of persons more hairbrained than reliable. There is much to criticise and much to praise in the administration of military and civil government, and the situation will remain most unsatisfactory as long as no one knows what the future has in store, but the delay cannot be avoided and in the meantime it remains to accept matters philosophically and do one's best to solve the problems that daily arise. Ameri-

cans as well as Britishers, Spaniards, and Philipinos, are alike anxious to learn the terms of peace. To me it seems remarkable that things go along as well as they do. It is interesting to note that those who complain most are the ones also who have the least to lose. The chief merchants are remarkably long-suffering in their attitude and deserve credit for their composure.

Saturday all the leading merchants here met and adopted resolutions against such administration of the Customs department as would permit goods to come in without paying the same duties as the immense stocks of imports in their hands and yet unsold under Spanish administration. They ask for such postponement of the date of applying the new tariff as will reasonably permit them to dispose of the major portions of their stocks. This is a just request and should be granted. Millions of dollars worth of goods were imported under Spanish authority which must be sold at a loss, if the duties which were paid on them are not now exacted on fresh imports. The merchants themselves are not to blame for the situation and only ask for a brief period to protect themselves. Lord Salisbury has been petitioned through the British Consulate to use the good offices of the British Government and telegrams have likewise been sent to the British Ambassador at Washington to represent British interests in the matter to the American home authorities.

There is much delay and confusion at the Custom House, but it must be remembered that it is the most difficult branch of the Government to administer successfully. In no other office is it so hard to please. There is no doubt that the local officials are doing all in their power, but most if not all of them are inexperienced in the work. Trained men are en route and will be here in due time. No one complains of injustice or suggests that any influences are at work which characterised former days, but delays in inspection and calculation are the principal troubles.

Communication with Iloilo and Cebu is now regularly established and steamers are running on usual dates. Travel and traffic are heavy and business is picking up better than was expected. Steamers to other provincial and island ports are also starting again, so that as far as trade interchange is concerned the conditions of war are passed.

The transport *St. Paul* left to-day for America via Hongkong. She will be the last Government vessel to be sent back in some time. The *Peru* and *Para* are still here. The *Arizona* and *Scandia*, both overdue, are daily expected with mails and supplies.

We hear that Consul-General Wildman is planning a visit to Manila about the middle of October. He will be welcomed by the authorities here and will have the opportunity to familiarize himself with many matters which are constantly being brought to his attention.

By every steamer that arrives a fresh contingent of Americans put in their appearance who wish to see the new possession of their Government and possibly locate, while by every steamer that departs just as many Volunteer army officers, ordered home, gladly leave, envied by those who are obliged to remain. I am afraid that if a vote of the army and navy were taken there would be a majority against annexation.

### THE AMERICAN TROOPS AT MANILA.

#### DYSENTERY RIFE.

#### THE "PASIG" AGAIN SEIZED.

Hongkong, 27th September.

The *City of Rio de Janeiro*, which came from Manila and called at Hongkong en route for San Francisco, left yesterday. She is taking home some 350 men afflicted with dysentery. Of these, however, about a dozen were able to get ashore while the vessel was in Hongkong. Two died on the way from Manila, and there is not much hope for four or five others. It appears that the health of the troops at Manila is not so good as it has been, some 1,400 being down with dysentery. The strange thing about it is that more regulars are affected than volunteers.

We understand that the *Pasig*, which had been renamed the *Abbey*, has been seized in Batangas



Harbour by Admiral Dewey, who had received word that she was carrying arms to the insurgents. The arms had, however, been landed when the seizure was made.

### UNUSUAL SCENE AT MURRAY BATTERY.

THE INSULT TO THE BRITISH COMMISSION AT KAM TIN HU.

VILLAGERS APOLOGISE AND KOWTOW TO THE UNION JACK.

Any one passing Murray Battery at two o'clock on Thursday afternoon would have witnessed an unusual scene. In the centre of the enclosure was a flag pole from which floated the Union Jack. On one side of the battery stood the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Acting Colonial Secretary, supported by the Acting Registrar General (Mr. J. Dyer Ball), the magistrate of Chinese Kowloon, and two or three Hongkong Chinamen. On the other side were nine Chinamen, six of them looking as if they belonged to the coolie class and three apparently belonging to a higher station in life. As a matter of fact two of the latter were undergraduates, the third being the elder of the village of Kam Tin Hu. The other six were farmers from the village named, which is situated in the district of Sun On, between Deep Bay and Taimoshan. The passer-by would observe that on the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith concluding his remarks the Chinamen opposite him knelt down in a line and kowtowed to the British flag.

In explanation of this scene we may state that on Saturday, August 20th, the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and party were engaged in their survey of the Kowloon extension, H.M.S. *Plover* having been placed at their disposal for the purpose of transporting them from one place to another. The party had landed in order to inspect the Kam Tin village. When the villagers, however, saw them coming they commenced to call out "Ta, ta" and "Fan-qui" and to beat gongs. Soon a thousand men and women were assembled and they closed the gates of their village. When the coolies of the Commission asked for admission their request was refused, and Mr. Lockhart and his party were similarly treated. On some blue-jackets from the *Plover* making their appearance, and Mr. Lockhart telling them that if the gates were not opened within ten minutes force would be used, the villagers became alarmed as to the consequences and gave way.

Mr. Lockhart had the Viceroy's special passport to visit the place, and it was accordingly the opinion of the authorities in Hongkong that the incident should not be passed over without notice, and as the result of this view the deputation already mentioned waited upon the Acting Colonial Secretary at the Government Offices, and subsequently followed him to Murray Battery, where the proceedings described below took place. Mr. Sung Sing, of the Registrar-General's department, acting as interpreter.

To begin with Mr. Smith asked for the gate-keeper, and a man was pointed out who it was said acted as gate-keeper at night, following the occupation of a farmer during the day.

Mr. SMITH asked—Who is the man who shut the gate on the third day of the seventh moon? He was informed that it was a woman who shut the gate on the occasion under discussion.

Mr. SMITH—You know that on the third day of the seventh moon Mr. Lockhart visited you? (Yes.) His coolies were driven away. (Signs of dissent.) That is a fact whether you deny it or not and the same day he himself was refused admittance. He had the Viceroy's special passport to visit the place. Therefore, you not only insulted the British Government but your own Viceroy. Now it is thirty one days since that occurred, and you have given the Government here and the Viceroy and the Tsungli Yamen a lot of trouble. Still it is better to be late than never. Let me tell you that your village is a marked village. I tell you your village is a marked village and it will soon come under British jurisdiction. I have no doubt that whoever is appointed to govern that territory will pay special attention to your education. You have brought a petition here. I have got the draft of it in my hand. That petition

acknowledges you have done wrong, expresses contrition for having done wrong, and promises never to do the same thing again. Who is the senior of you three men?

The elder of the village was pointed out.

Mr. SMITH—Step up here.

The elder stepped forward.

Mr. SMITH (handing him the original petition in Chinese)—Read that petition so that everybody can hear it.

The elder began to read, but, as he faltered a good deal,

Mr. SMITH said—This man can't read. Let one of the other three step forward.

One of the undergraduates then advanced and read the petition.

Mr. SMITH—You three men will have to sign that before you go away. Where is the man called U Ki Chang. (Not here.) He wrote this placard. (To the undergraduate)—Read it.

The undergraduate complied.

Mr. SMITH—Is that a respectable thing?

The deputation admitted that it was not, but said it was not done by them.

Mr. SMITH—I do not care. It was done by some one in your village. Now this is a translation of the placard.

The translation was then read by Mr. Smith, who, it will be seen, interjected a remark here and there, as follows:—"On account of the English barbarians—(what does that mean?)—who came secretly—(is that right?)—to spy out our land—(Mr. Lockhart came under official protection, with the Viceroy's special passport, and yet you men say he came to spy out your land)—we forcibly resisted them, thus vindicating the reputation of our district. This business affects our prosperity and general welfare. The various villages should unite their forces, and the gentry of the various villages select a day to go to Sun On to see the magistrate—(now just now you told me this had nothing to do with Kam Tin; listen to this:—) and the expenses will be paid by Kam Tin, opium, travelling expenses and food are to be defrayed by the gentry themselves. The expenses will be divided amongst Kam Tin—(your village)—and the adjoining village, and besides ten taels will be advanced first, the other five shares to be evenly distributed among the five branches of the Tung family in Kam Tin."

"Now then," continued Mr. Smith, "Has that nothing to do with anybody here? Do not you find that Kam Tin occurs three times in that placard?" In conclusion Mr. Smith, pointing to the British flag, said—"That is the flag you have insulted. All of you must kowtow to that flag three times, and do it all kneeling down in a line."

This direction having been complied with,

Mr. SMITH concluded—Now then you can go about your business. Do not repeat it, and when the British come along there again mind your P's and Q's. Take care you behave yourselves. Now then, get away.

The deputation, having expressed their thanks for their reception, withdrew.

The following is a translation of the petition presented:—

"A petition from the gentry of Kam Tin village stating that through the ignorance of the country people they had committed an offence for which they knew they should repent, and praying that they may be graciously pardoned as an act of great kindness exhibited to them."

"Petitioners state that the people in Kam Tin village are farmers or firewood-cutters, and have no manners or education. Sometime ago, the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, the British Commissioner who was appointed to take a survey of (the leased) territory, arrived at this village, when some of the farmers and persons who carried burdens got frightened, suddenly barred the gate, being rustics and ignorant, thereby heedlessly offending the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart."

"On learning the facts of the case, from enquiry being made, petitioners summoned these offenders before them and have reprimanded them. They have now received instructions from the Magistrate of this place who acted under instructions from his superior officers to bring the persons in company with them to proceed at once to Hongkong to tender their apology and settle the case. Upon receipt of these instructions, petitioners trembled with fear and again summoned (the offenders) for an

explanation and reprimanded them. Now the people of the whole village are well aware that they have committed a very great wrong for which they know that repentance is too late. Wherefore, they purposely present a petition to your Honour and pray that you will be graciously pleased to show an extraordinary favour to them out of consideration for the ignorance of the rustic people and pardon them for this—a favour which not only petitioners but the whole inhabitants of this village will ever keep in their remembrance."

### THE GAMBLING SCANDAL.

DISMISSED POLICE OFFICERS ALLOWED PENSIONS.

We are informed by the Acting Colonial Secretary that the Secretary of State has decided not to re-instate Messrs. Stanton, Baker, and Quincey in the Police, but to allow them pensions, reduced by 20 per cent., subject to their ceasing to reside in the colony of Hongkong.

### EXCITING CHASE AFTER A PRISONER.

THE TRAIL LOST.

Considerable commotion was caused at Victoria Gaol shortly after noon on Monday by the discovery that a Chinaman who was undergoing imprisonment for returning from banishment, and who had previously served 12 years, had escaped. Captain Superintendent May was at once informed, and without loss of time all hands began to search for anything which might disclose the direction taken by prisoner. Warder Morley soon found evidence which proved conclusively that the man had escaped over the west wall, dropping into a lane leading into Stanton Street, prisoner having cut himself while climbing the wall. Spots of blood were noticed along Stanton Street, Mosque Street, Caine Road, Castle Road, to Pokfulam Conduit. There had been a heavy downpour of rain just before the search was commenced, and consequently the trail was to some extent obliterated. Once it was lost, but it was picked up again by Sergeant Rogers, who is at present engaged in sanitary work, and afterwards the Captain Superintendent and Chief Detective Inspector Hanson followed it until it brought them to near Victoria Fort, parties in the meantime scouring the city in different directions. The pursuers saw that the trail ended at the water, and there is no doubt prisoner escaped in a boat to Chinese territory.

### A RAID ON HONGKONG COMPRA-DORES.

HEAVY FINES FOR SELLING WEAK SPIRITS.

At the Magistracy on 28th Sept. Commander Hastings had before him three compradores who had been summoned on the information of Inspector Duncan for selling spirits to which more water than the quantity allowed by law had been added.

There were two charges against Fuk Tai Loong, of 2, Elgin street, one for selling weak whisky and the other for selling weak brandy. Inspector Duncan produced the certificate of the Government analyst which showed that the whisky, which was labelled "Fine old Scotch," contained 4 per cent. excess of water. Defendant said he paid \$3 for a dozen bottles. The brandy was labelled "Fine old cognac, made in Germany," and contained 22 per cent. excess of water. In the one case defendant was fined \$100 and in the other \$50.

The next offender was U Yok Wan, of 15, Lyndhurst Terrace. Inspector Duncan said that the "Fine old cognac made in Germany," which he purchased from defendant for 25 cents the bottle, contained 18 per cent. excess of water. Defendant paid \$2.75 for a dozen bottles. A bottle of whisky contained 10 per cent. excess of water. For the whisky defendant paid \$5 a dozen. Fined \$100 and \$50.

Heung (heung), of 14, Elgin street, was charged with selling "Fine Champagne cognac" containing 9 per cent. excess of water. He said he paid \$5.75 the case, each case contained 47 flasks. He sold the flasks for 20 cents each. He was fined \$100.

Mr. J. Hastings applied for a re-hearing at



the Magistracy on 29th Sept. of a case heard the previous day in which a compradore was fined for selling brandy to which an excess of water had been added. He said the liquor was exactly as it was received from a German firm, and that his client did not know it was adulterated. He suggested that the importers were the people who should be proceeded against. Commander Hastings, however, could not see his way to grant the application. He remarked that the price paid for the stuff showed what it was, though he said he too was of opinion that the police should go for the importers.

### THE KWANGSI REBELLION.

From Wuchow we learn that on the 20th September Chang, a rebel leader who had been captured, was being brought in irons across the Fuho River, when he committed suicide by jumping into the water. The body was recovered, a reward of \$200 having been offered for it, and it will be decapitated.

On the 21st, H. E. the Governor of Kwangsi arrived from Kweiin with two thousand soldiers and left for the districts above Wuchow with the intention of "wiping out the rebellion." The Tsungli Yamen have allowed him a limited period in which to accomplish the task.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Wuchow, 24th September.

Yesterday afternoon at 3 p.m. eight of the subordinate rebel leaders were beheaded on the execution ground here. These unfortunate wretches, gagged and bound, were carried in baskets through the principal street on their way to execution, or butchery would be a better term. One man had managed to slip the gag out of his mouth and was protesting his innocence amidst the laughter and jeers of the crowd assembled at all the shop doors and windows to see the procession pass. As Byron puts it: "I will not plead the cause of crime," but knowing so well what Chinese administration of justice means one cannot but think that possibly his cry for mercy, although unheeded, may have been that of an innocent man. It is perhaps too early to expect China to understand that the object of punishment is that it may act as a deterrent of crime, and without attempting to refute the exception made by that great writer who says "Warning is in ordinary cases the principal end of punishment; but it is not the only end: to remove the offender, to preserve society from those dangers which are to be apprehended from his incorrigible depravity, is often one of the ends," it is certain that had he witnessed the scene of yesterday, where men struggled for places to gaze on, and gloat over the shedding of their fellow creatures' blood; where boys of a tender age whooped and jumped amongst the ghastly remains and, with a glee horrible to see, performed, in play, its sickening details over again; and where one overheard criticisms of the keen stroke of the headsman or the bungling attempts of his assistants in the same cold blooded way as the points of a horse would be discussed on a race course—he would have thundered forth in that eloquence of which he was the master for some America or England to arise and inaugurate a new state of things in a country which is a stain and blot on the civilization of the world.

### HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of this society was held in the City Hall on Monday afternoon, 26th Sept. The Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, President of the society, was in the chair.

The usual report and statement of accounts were presented to the meeting and passed. It would seem from the report that this Society not only dispenses Scottish hospitality to the community of Hongkong on the anniversary of their patron Saint, but dispenses in charity to needy but deserving copatriots who may find themselves in the colony in need of such.

The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving was again unanimously elected President of the Society for the ensuing year, Captain G. C. Anderson Vice-President, Messrs. D. R. Crawford and J. McG. Forbes Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and the following gentlemen were appointed on

the committee, viz. Mr. Geo. Murray-Bain, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, H. E. Major-General Wilson Black, Mr. J. C. Peter, and Dr. Alex. Rennie.

We learn that the Society has decided to again give a ball on 30th November next.

### THE WRECK OF THE "COMET."

The American bark *Comet* departed from Amoy on the 28th August loaded with 600 tons of sugar and other merchandise, bound for Newchwang. All went well until the afternoon of the 29th, when a fierce typhoon was encountered with mountainous cross seas. About 3 a.m., a blinding rain having set in and the barometer down to 28.05, a crash was heard and the three topmasts went over the side with all spars attached. The storm continued all day and the barometer went as low as 27.90. The wreckage was cut away and a spare foresail was bent and an effort made to set towards the China coast, but at 3.45 a.m. on the 31st the vessel went on shore near Aulang (Koro), a village on the north-west coast of Formosa. Shortly after the vessel struck, she commenced listing over to the starboard, and continued doing so until the tops went out of sight. Heavy seas now dashed on board smashing up the boats and deck houses. Upon the cabin deck breaking away, the Chinese crew, some thirteen in number, clung to it and were washed out to sea, where they were later picked up by the s.s. *Hamun*. Captain and Mrs. Broadhurst and Mr. Holm, the mate, who were the only foreigners on board, and the Chinese steward lashed themselves to the sheerpole of the mizzen rigging, immersed to their breasts in water, the seas continually breaking over them from 6 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. It was a desperate fight for life and that the captain's wife did not succumb to the hardships of the trial speaks much for her courage and strength. The tide then fell and they were able to change their position to one on the side of the vessel. Soon afterwards they were observed from on shore and at 5.30 a Chinese boat came out to the wreck and carried the plucky survivors off to shore, where they were kindly received by the Japanese Customs officer in charge. On the news of the wreck reaching Tamsui, some 50 miles to the north, Mr. Nomura, the Superintendent of Customs, at once despatched a Customs cruiser to Aulang and brought the rescued people to Tamsui. Once at the port Mr. Nomura placed his pleasant residence at their disposal and treated them with a kindness which could not possibly have been exceeded.

We note by an advertisement in the *Formosa Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the wreck and cargo will be sold at public auction at Twa-tua on the 30th of September.

### NATURAL PHILOSOPHY APPLIED TO RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN YUNNAN PROVINCE.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The concession to build a most important railway in China has been obtained by the British Government, viz., one through the province of Yunnan, from Burmah into the Yangtze Valley. Although this valuable privilege has been obtained, some months ago, no word of any British Company being formed for the exploitation of this profitable enterprise has yet been heard of.

Probably the reason of this want of enterprise on the part of British capitalists is the very inglorious view put forward, on the part of the British Premier, as to the prospects of making the line pay, owing to the great engineering difficulties to be met in carrying the line through the excessively mountainous and sparsely populated province of Yunnan; he having stated in Parliament, in reply to a question as to whether the British Government would guarantee a small rate of interest on the capital invested in the project, that there were precipitous mountains to be climbed and vast chasms to be spanned. This was doubtless the real reason for refusal to guarantee the interest asked for the outlay, although the fact that the line would not run through British territory was the reason put forward.

Such a line would really be one of great importance to the interests of the British Empire, both commercially and politically, and as such

would quite justify the Government in taking the responsibility of guaranteeing the small interest asked, especially so as the engineering difficulties in carrying it through Yunnan have been absurdly magnified, there being no serious difficulties whatever, and the country passed through will be found far from sparsely populated, rather the reverse being the case, especially in the northern portion of the province.

Now, having made a sweeping statement quite at variance with generally accepted opinion, let us proceed to see how far natural philosophy will bear us out; and investigate the country to be traversed, without leaving the four walls of our study and making the arduous journey to the much maligned province of Yunnan. To do this we will get two good maps before us, the one of Asia and the other of China, and with the aid of these and the proper use of our intellect we will proceed.

The first thing we will note is the general trend of the great mountain ranges of Asia and as a sequence the direction in which the great rivers of that continent flow, finally paying particular attention to these two facts as regards the province of Yunnan. Secondly, we will note the relative age, geologically speaking, of the different mountain ranges and observe their points of intersection, where they do intersect each other.

Having done this and taken cognizance of all that is to be learned from these simple facts we will find that the lesson taught is in accordance with the aforesaid sweeping statement and adverse to the generally accepted opinion on the subject.

We have said that we will first note the great mountain ranges of Asia. It will be sufficient for our purpose to note the great ranges of Southern Asia: they are the Himalayas, with their continuations right into China which separate the "West River Valley" from the "Valley of the Yangtze," and certain ranges running north and south, almost at right angles to the former. A sequence to this formation is that the Yangtze River runs east and west, to the northward of the great east and west mountain range just mentioned, the northern boundary of the Yangtze Valley being another great east and west range, and the West River flows east and west on the southern side of the first mentioned range, its southern boundary being another great east and west range, not to be seen on even the best maps at present issued, probably on account of their elevation being much less than those ranges indicated on the maps.

The rivers of Burmah, Siam, and Annam, on the contrary, run north and south, showing clearly that they are hemmed in by north and south mountain ranges. The same will be observed as regards the rivers passing through the Yunnan Province. Now the Himalayas are known to be a mountain range of recent date, geologically speaking, and all the great east and west ranges of China likewise prove to be so, or of later date to the carboniferous era, for coal and more recent formations are found in them. The north and south mountain ranges, on the contrary, prove to be of much greater age, for gold, silver, copper, tin, etc., are found in them, minerals only found in rocks of great age; there is no trace of coal in these hills.

Here comes another sequence: the newer mountain ranges, i.e., those running east and west, should, where they intersect the older ranges, cut through or fracture the older ranges running north and south, and hence, as another sequence, the great river gorges, where they occur, should have an eastern and western trend. All travellers in China attest to the fact that the great gorges do have this trend, as should be the case if our line of reasoning is correct.

Continuing the thread of reason, we arrive at the conclusion that a railway line running east and west through Burmah will be most costly, as it will meet with the difficulties spoken of as to Yunnan, viz., precipitous mountains to be climbed and vast chasms to be spanned. Such has indeed been the case. The reasoning seems to have been that the line must be carried east and west through Yunnan, meeting with similar or greater engineering difficulties.

What, however, are the facts? Why, that there is no need to follow a difficult route when an easy one is open. The railway having reached Kunlon Ferry, on the Salween River, will now, naturally, run in a northerly direction up the



valley of that river till it can be carried across to Tali-fu, on the Urh-Hai Lake; from there it will continue northward again till it meets the east and west range holding the Yangtse to this course and will then turn sharp to the eastward, entering the Yangtse Valley through a fracture in the intersecting hills. It is not the intention of this paper to follow it further than this point, as the debateable ground has been covered. The route indicated will be found fairly well populated, the latter portion, through northern Yunnan, carrying quite a large population owing to its vicinity to the densely populated province of Szechuen.

### CHARGE AGAINST A SCHOOL-MASTER.

At the Magistracy on 28th September, before Commander Hastings, W. Manners, fourth master at the Diocesan School and Orphanage, was charged with assaulting a school boy named Hong Ui Sing. Mr. Hursthouse appeared for complainant and Mr. Gedge for defendant.

The story told by complainant was that at about half-past eight on the evening of Tuesday week he was having a bath when he heard defendant call out to him. Defendant afterwards looked over the partition into the bath-room. When witness came out defendant struck him on the head, first with his open hand and then with his clenched fist. He subsequently made him kowtow to him and then dragged him upstairs to bed.

In answer to Mr. Gedge, complainant said defendant did not tell him to go to bed before he struck him. If he had told him to go upstairs he would certainly have gone up. When he came out of the bath-room he did not commence playing. He did not hear Mr. Manners ask him to come out of the bath-room. Mr. Manners told him to kowtow to him and while he was on the floor he banged his head. He told Mr. Piercy the following morning.

Hui Wai Hing, another school-boy, said he remembered Tuesday night of last week. Complainant was bathing and Mr. Manners told him to close the tap. When complainant came out of the bath room Mr. Manners struck him. Witness was in No. 6 bath room, and he saw what took place by standing on a stool. As soon as he saw Mr. Manners strike complainant he got down from the stool again.

In answer to Mr. Gedge witness said that some little time ago at complainant's suggestion he ran away from school. He stayed away two days, but complainant stayed away longer.

Mr. George Piercy, the head master, said that on Wednesday morning of last week complainant told him that Mr. Manners had boxed his ears the previous evening. He said his head was sore and he could not hear properly. Witness noticed a slight discolouration over the right ear, but he did not notice anything over the eye at the time. Mr. Manners told him the boy had disobeyed him and he had struck him with his open hand. It was contrary to the rules of the school for any of his assistants to strike a boy over the head.

In reply to Mr. Gedge, witness admitted that this rule had been put in the book since the assault, but added that it was understood before, and that it was a matter about which he spoke to Mr. Manners when he first came. Complainant went away on the 5th September and stayed away a fortnight. When he came back on the 19th he was punished. The boy was very troublesome. Defendant took great interest in the boys. He was a humane man, and it was improbable that he would assault complainant in the manner described.

Dr. F. O. Stedman, who said he examined complainant on the 24th instant, put in a certificate which showed that he found on the boy's head three bruises which must have been caused by some violence. One bruise was two-and-a-half by half-an-inch and was over the bone behind the right ear, and the others were over the eyes. He should think the bruises were caused four days before.

Mr. Gedge, in addressing the Court for the defence, said it might appear a small matter for a boy to bring a charge of this sort against a schoolmaster, but it was a very serious thing for defendant, and he asked his worship to bear this in mind in giving his decision. He submitted that the evidence of complainant as to the assault was totally unworthy of belief. His

story was that he did not know why he was hit. He admitted on behalf of defendant that a technical assault was committed. He boxed the boy's ears, but with no more severity than was generally used by schoolmasters, and this he submitted defendant had a right to do.

Defendant was bound over in his own recognisances of five cents to be of good behaviour for one day.

### THE MUTINY ON BOARD H.M.S. "HERMIONE" IN 1797.

The latest addition to the British squadron on the China Station, the *Hermione*, recalls to the mind of the student of naval history a mutiny which broke out on board a ship of the same name at the close of the last century. Unlike the generality of mutinies, several of which unfortunately had occurred in the British navy, now on board single ships and again in large fleets, viz, the mutiny on board the *Windsor Castle* (flagship of Rear Admiral Robert Linzee) at San Fiorenzo Bay, on the 10th November, 1794; that on board the *St. George* (Capt. Peard) off Cadiz, in 1797; and the more general ones of the fleet at Spithead on the 15th April, 1797, at the Nore on 10th May, 1797, and of the squadron at the Cape of Good Hope in October, 1797, the mutiny on board the *Hermione* had its counterpart only, and that very faintly, in the mutiny on board the *Bounty* (Capt. Bligh) on the 28th April, 1798, and that which occurred on the *Danae* (Capt. Lord Proby) on the 15th March, 1799, but these last pale before the terrible *emeute* which was enacted on board the *Hermione*, the subject of this article, just 101 years ago last Thursday, and which, when the details became known, caused Europe and America to ring with horror at the despicable and dastardly act. The conviction was, however, forced on the public that the inhumanity of her commander was the sole cause of the vengeance that was wreaked on him and the innocent ones that suffered with him. Truly it has been said that the innocent suffer for the guilty.

It cannot be doubted that at that period British seamen were treated totally differently from what they are now, and just as a black sheep is to be met with in a flock, British Captains were found, men totally devoid of humanity, who thought nothing of meting out for a slight offence punishment at which we would now hold up our hands in horror. Even the officers, in some cases, came in for a share of abuse at the hands of their captain, as witness the case of the *Bounty*, the captain of which (Bligh) was a man of very violent temper, the constant ebullitions of which finally caused him intense suffering and lost him his ship. The *Bounty* was on a voyage to the South Sea Islands in quest of young bread-fruit trees for transplantation to the West India Islands. One morning, Capt. Bligh, happening to lose a few cocoa-nuts, had his brother officers mustered and soundly rated them for stealing his fruit, winding up by calling them a "pack of thieves." This scurvy treatment rankled the most in the breast of the 1st Lieutenant of the ship (Lient. Christian), a man of gentle birth, and well it might in a gentleman, which his captain was not. This was the spark that set fire to the magazine that was already pent up in the bosom of Lient. Christian. On the night of the 28th April, 1798, Lient. Christian overpowered the watch and, heading a party of mutineers, broke into Capt. Bligh's cabin while he was asleep. Bligh pointed his pistol at the first man to enter, but it missed fire; he was then most unceremoniously dragged from his cabin, in his shirt sleeves, and tied securely to the mizzen mast, with a guard over him, while the mutineers assembled to consider what to do with their captain. It was finally decided to put him into a boat, which was accordingly lowered alongside. In it he was without further parley dumped and, together with a few of the crew who begged to be allowed to go with him, turned adrift, not however before having some water, wine, and provisions thrown in to them. After an eventful voyage of some thousands of miles, during which Bligh and his men suffered untold hardships, they managed to reach Batavia and those that survived (Capt. Bligh being in the number) finally returned to England. As to the mutineers, they steered a direct course for Tahiti, where they obtained na-

tive wives, with whom they proceeded to Pitcairn Island, where they burnt the ship and settled down. After a lapse of some years, the *Pandora*, frigate, was sent out to look for the mutineers, but Lient. Christian and many more had died in the interval, so that only a few were captured and brought in irons to England (in another ship, the *Pandora* having been wrecked on the passage home), where several suffered the last penalty of the law, the remainder receiving the King's pardon. Amongst the latter was a Lient. Peter Heywood. Of the whole only one man (John Adams, A.B.) escaped, and he died a natural death, leaving numerous descendants. Lient. Christian left a son, by name Thursday October Christian, he having been born on a Thursday in the month of October. The descendants of these interesting people can still be met with at Tahiti Island, where they had emigrated from Pitcairn Island, as enough water to meet their increased wants could not be had at the latter place.

This digression is necessary to show how even executive officers on board the King's ships were treated by captains of the stamp of Bligh, and well might Lient. Christian cry out "I'm in hell; I have been in hell for the last fortnight"—an exclamation imputed to Christian when Capt. Bligh remonstrated with him as he was being thrown into the boat.

But to return to the *Hermione* and the terrible tragedy that was enacted on board, in describing which I can do no better than to quote *in extenso* the graphic words of the historian James as follows:—

On the night of the 22nd of September, 1797, while the 32-gun frigate *Hermione* (Captain Hugh Pigot), was cruising off the west end of Porto-Rico, a most daring and unexampled mutiny broke out on board of her. It appears that, on the preceding day, while the crew were reefing the topsails, the captain called aloud that he would flog the last man off the mizzen-topsail yard. The poor fellows well knowing that he would keep his word (and though the lot would naturally fall on the outermost, and consequently the most active), each resolved at any rate to escape from punishment. Two of them, who from their position could not reach the topmast rigging, made a spring to get over their comrades within them; they missed their hold, fell on the quarter-deck, and were both killed. This being reported to the captain, he is said to have made answer, "Throw the lubbers overboard." It appears, also, that all the other men, on coming down, were severely reprimanded, and threatened with punishment.

This most tyrannical conduct on the part of Captain Pigot, operating upon a very motley, and, from a succession of similar acts of oppression, ill-disposed ship's company, produced discontent, which kept increasing until the next evening, when it fatally burst forth. The men, in addition to the loud murmurs they uttered, now began throwing double-headed shot about the deck; and on the first-lieutenant's advancing to inquire into the cause of the disturbance, they wounded him in the arm with a tomahawk. He retired for a while, and then returned; when the wretches knocked him down with a tomahawk, cut his throat, and threw him overboard. The captain, hearing a noise, ran on deck, but was driven back with repeated wounds; seated in his cabin he was stabbed by his cookswain and three other mutineers, and, forced out of his cabin windows, was heard to speak as he went astern. In a similar manner did the mutineers proceed with eight other officers, cutting and mangling their victims in the most cruel and barbarous manner. The only officers that escaped destruction were the master, Edward Southcott, the gunner, Richard Searle, the carpenter, Richard Price, one midshipman, David O'Brien Casey, and the cook, William Moncrief. Those murdered were the captain, three lieutenants, purser, surgeon, captain's clerk, one midshipman, the boatswain, and the lieutenant of marines.

Having thus rid themselves of every possible opponent, the mutineers carried the ship into La Guayra, a port of the Spanish Main, representing to the Spanish Governor that they had turned their officers adrift in the jolly boat. The Governor, soon afterwards, in spite of the remonstrances of Rear-Admiral Henry Harvey, the British Commander-in-chief on the Leeward Island station, who fully explained the hor-



rid circumstances under which the ship had been taken possession of, fitted the *Hermione* for sea as a Spanish national frigate. (Spain was at that time at war with England).

Could we descant upon the humanity or general kind behaviour of the *Hermione's* late captain, it might serve to heighten, if anything could heighten, the guilt of his murderers; but a regard to truth compels us to state that Capt. Hugh Pigot bore a character very opposite to a mild one; in short, he has been described to us by those who knew him well as one of the most cruel and oppressive captains belonging to the British Navy.

Many of the *Hermione's* mutineers were afterwards taken, and suffered for their crimes; crimes that, had they each a dozen lives, merited the sacrifice of the whole. If the Ali Pacha of the ship had been the sole victim of their rage, the public indignation might have been appeased the instant the daily practices of the tyrant became known; but the indiscriminate slaughter of their officers, even to the young clerk and midshipman, gave a shock to public feeling which vibrates even yet when the subject is touched upon. That the mutineers of the *Hermione* should turn traitors to their offended country was the natural consequence of the enormity of their guilt. Of those subsequently taken and brought to punishment, some, from repentance, others from hardened shamefulness, confessed their guilt, and gave minute details of the horrid transaction.

What became of the *Hermione* after she fell into the hands of the Spaniards in the shameful manner as related above will be related in a subsequent article.

P. J.

### THE TUNG WA HOSPITAL.

#### THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL MEDICAL OFFICER CONDENSES IT.

Dr. Atkinson, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, in his report for 1897, published in Saturday's *Gazette*, makes the following remarks on the Tung Wa Hospital:—

With regard to this institution a Commission appointed by His Excellency Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., fully inquired into its working and organisation and the report of this Commission, together with the evidence taken before it, was issued from the Government printing office in September, 1896.

One result of this was the appointment of Dr. Thomson as visiting surgeon to this institution.

His report for the year 1897 will be found in enclosure IV.

In conjunction with Dr. Thomson Mr. Chung King-ne, who has been trained in Western medicine at Tientsin and was subsequently house surgeon for eight years at the Alice Memorial Hospital, was appointed resident surgeon to this hospital.

The existence of this hospital, in which it appears that more than four-fifths of the inmates are treated by so-called Chinese methods, is somewhat anomalous in a British colony.

It is not for me to discuss the matter from the point of view of the statesman who, doubtless, has to consider the desirability of humouring to some extent the prejudices of the Chinese population, who in this colony outnumber the Europeans by the proportion of twenty to one.

It is my duty to look at the matter from a medical point of view and there can be very little doubt from that point of view that the so-called Chinese medical methods are really nothing but empiricism or quackery. As Dyer Ball states in his work on "Things Chinese":—

"Medical works claim attention from the numerous writers on his branch. The oldest work was written several centuries before the Christian era.

"It has been supposed from their minute account of the human body that the Chinese, at one time, practised dissection. If so, however, the remembrance of it has long been forgotten, and their medical works are characterised by groundless theories."

Dr. Wilson, Inspector of Naval Hospitals and Fleets, in his work "Medical Notes on China," states—

"The healing art among the Chinese, with much pretension to learning and practical

power, is in a very rude and insufficient state; it is, in fact, a chaos of unfounded conceits, contradictory notions, and pompous phrases.

"They appear to have fallen into a petrified fixedness which nothing but the most powerful external agents can move.

"They affect to understand temperaments by the pulse. When one of the medical sages was requested to declare that of the writer he laid his fingers along the wrist, appeared to think deeply while he interrogated the impulse, and, after a little, said, gravely, that the element of metal predominated.

"Surgery, in any proper sense of the word, has no existence among the Chinese; as might have been concluded, without observation, from their total ignorance of anatomy. They set and support fractures of the extremities after the fashion of an ordinary farrier, and they are moderately successful in the reduction of simple dislocations; but anything requiring knowledge of structure, or the nice application of mechanical power, is beyond their reach.

"Together with the bone-setting and puncturing noticed above, Chinese operative surgery consists almost entirely in the application of moxas, which, although it was not witnessed by the writer, is said to be practised extensively. Of scientific principles, it is needless to say that it is destitute."

Dr. Thomson goes very fully into the arrangements in force at this institution.

The patients who apply for admission are mostly poor people of the artisan class: coolies, etc., and nearly all have an ingrained dread of the foreigner and his so-called Western methods.

The doctors are not trained at all as we understand training, and are really nothing but quacks; they do not pretend to have any knowledge of surgical treatment; indeed, there is no such thing in the hospital as a surgical instrument; their panacea for all surgical injuries and diseases being the inevitable pitch-plaster; they never administer chloroform.

Once in 1895 when I demonstrated the use of a catheter to them in a patient suffering agonies from distension of the bladder they smiled complacently and seemed highly amused, but it did not seem to occur to them that such a knowledge would be useful. Similarly, they appeared amused at the ease with which a dislocation was reduced under chloroform.

During the year 1895 and 1896 I was assisted by the late Mr. U I Kai and frequently endeavoured to interest them in the different methods of surgical treatment especially enforcing the absolute necessity of cleanliness and of incising abscesses, etc., instead of covering them with pitch-plaster as is their wont, and thus exposing the patients to retention of pus and the dangers of septicaemia.

Seeing how futile my efforts were I reported to the Government every case which, in my opinion, was being maltreated.

I stated in my evidence before the Commission that from a medical point of view I considered that the hospital should be abolished, and I still think so.

The object and purpose of the institution was the proper treatment of the indigent sick amongst the Chinese population (see Ordinance No. 3 of 1870, sections 3 and 16)

As an asylum for destitutes and a resting place for the dying, I think it does very useful work and would recommend its maintenance and continuance for these purposes; but as a hospital for the treatment of the sick I maintain that it should not be recognised in a British colony.

It corresponds more to a workhouse at home with the exception that it is not maintained out of the rates.

For the indigent Chinese sick I would suggest the advisability of the Government's establishing:—

A hospital similar to the Tan Tock Seng Hospital at Singapore, which is open to all nationalities but in which the great bulk of the patients treated are Chinese.

The medical staff at this hospital consists of both Europeans and Asiatics, the Asiatics being employed only as dressers, under the direct supervision of the Colonial Surgeon in charge, and of two qualified European or Eurasian apothecaries.

European methods of treatment are insisted on. No opposition is or, as far as is known, has been experienced to European medical

treatment. The patients voluntarily present themselves there for treatment as they do at the Government Civil Hospital and the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals in this colony.

The experience at Singapore is similar to that here, viz., that the number of Chinese who seek admission to the general hospital, which corresponds to our Government Civil Hospital, where they have to pay, has increased of late years. (See Report of Tung Wah Hospital Commission, page LXVI and LXVII.)

To return to Dr. Thomson's report, "each patient is on admission asked by a head coolie whether he prefers Chinese or Western treatment."

The method of ascertaining the causes of death cannot be considered scientific, as Dr. Thomson says "after cross-examination of the friends and relatives as to the symptoms and duration of the deceased's illness and a consideration of the appearance of the body a fairly accurate idea as to the cause of death for purpose of the Honourable Registrar General's statistics is obtained."

It would be better in all doubtful cases, where the cause of death is uncertain, and might be due to diseases such as plague or typhoid fever, that the facts of the case be reported to the Police Magistrate so that an order may be obtained from him for a *post-mortem* examination.

Now that the bye-laws for the compulsory reporting of infectious, contagious, or communicable diseases are in force in this colony, it is more important than ever, if the public health is to be safeguarded and maintained, that notification of all such diseases should be made.

From Dr. Thomson's report I gather that very few, if any, *post-mortem* examinations have been held during the year.

Much good has been done and numerous minor improvements have undoubtedly been effected, e.g.:—

- (1) The abolition of sandal-wood burners in the wards.
- (2) Beds put in the lockers.
- (3) Substitution of tin trays for wicker baskets.
- (4) Iron screens to fire-places.
- (5) Removal of commodes, as far as possible, from the wards.

If the Tung Wa is to be retained as a hospital I advise from a sanitary point of view:—

- (1) The substitution of a water-closet system in place of the present plan of removal of excreta, etc.
- (2) Erection of suitable and roomy wards in place of the Ko Fong wards.

### THE CONGESTED CONDITION OF THE YARN MARKET.

The following letter from Mr. H. M. Mehta to the President of the Bombay Millowners' Association, with enclosure, has been forwarded to us for publication:—

To the Honourable, Mr. N. N. WADIA, C.I.E., President, Bombay Millowners' Association, Bombay.

Dear Sir,—The Chinese merchants of this colony dealing in Indian yarn having unitedly come to the conclusion, in order to tide over the present exigencies of the yarn trade in this market, chiefly brought about by over-supplies from India, Japan, and other sources, without the usual outlets open for their ordinary consumption, that a representation should be made by wire to the mills affiliated with your Association to urgently impress upon them the necessity of adopting for the time being a short-time movement, with a view to bring about a curtailment of production and consequently of shipments, conveyed to me the request of sending a wire to your Association to the effect of their views.

A copy of their letter conveying the request I beg to enclose with this in order to place the views of the Chinese merchants in their full entirety as to the present over-laden juncture before your Association, and I hereby beg to confirm the transmission of the following message on the 8th instant:—

"Chinese merchants unitedly urge, necessity mills working short-time. Rebellion Kwangsi, Kwangtung seriously interfering—closing out-



lets. Stocks sold and unsold one lac Hongkong—half Shanghai—Urgency retarding shipments extreme."

Your reply to this message was duly to hand on the 9th instant reading:—"Committee will consider question of short time provided China and Japan mills co-operate—Millowners."

Believe me, I cannot sufficiently express to you the thanks of the Chinese merchants for so promptly voicing to them the views of your Association at the present momentous urgency.

Personally, considering the present position of the yarn industry in India, Japan, and in China, I am not much in accord with the views of the Chinese merchants as to the feasibility of the remedy they advocate to relieve the present congestion. The figures that they set forth as to sold and unsold stocks in this market and in Shanghai are beyond dispute. They are verifiable by various tests and comparisons, but the one test of heavy accumulations in the godowns of importers is of a very crucial nature, and it goes to show in a very concrete manner and beyond the shadow of a doubt that the present accumulations are unprecedentedly heavy, and that they have very momentous bearing it taken in conjunction with importations of the outturns of the mills of Japan and those of the North. That the over-loading is at the present moment a result of the rebellion in the two Kwangs is also certain. It is not only that the markets of these two large consuming provinces have been temporarily shut off, but other larger markets, for instance, those of the distant province of Yunan, have also been shut off, inasmuch as Kwangsi being the high-road for conveyance of commodities to Yunan, that province though not at present affected with rebellion, has, by the very closure of Kwangsi, been likewise barred against supplies from the distributing centres. But the closure of these important outlets cannot but be temporary in its duration. The latest advice received by the Chinese merchants themselves from the interior of the country lend a hope that the suppression of the rebellion is not far distant now, and that it will not be very long before a clear line can be announced. If the cause of the rebellion as to heavy stocks stood alone, one may even look for a reaction in the matter of demand, and to some extent in the matter of prices as well. But the difficulties that truly beset the yarn trade and the spinning industry of India are not of a short-lived character. Though at the present moment they are shrouded under the cover of the rebellions of the two Kwangs, the duration of the competition that has of late been set rolling by the mills in Japan and China, cannot for a moment be doubted. Despite all disadvantages as to prices and difficulties as to disposal, the working of the 75 mills of Japan, running 973,423 spindles, and of the 15 mills in Shanghai and at outports, running at present 292,400 spindles, to be brought to their full complement of 460,200 spindles, distinctly evinces that the competition against the mill industry of India will have a permanent tenure, and that competition is daily gaining so much in strength and intensity that any such ephemeral measure as a short-time movement, if adopted exclusively by the Indian mills, and without the co-operation of the mills of China and Japan, would, instead of relieving the present congestion, at the least keep intact, if not enhance, present difficulties of over-supply, inasmuch as any curtailment of production brought about by the Indian mills would instantly be replaced by the mills of Japan and of China. To instance a result of the competition: for the fortnight ended 10th September last, whilst Shanghai took 4,200 bales of Indian threads, the off-take of Japanese threads was 3,000 bales, and of local threads about 2,200 bales. Had there been no competition, and if the mills of Japan and China had been working on different lines for finer threads as at first contemplated and not for coarser counts, the result of the fortnight's operation in Shanghai would have been sales of about 9,000 bales of Indian thread. The figure of 9,000 bales would have had its own value, and the present outcry about the rebellion of the two Kwangs shutting off large outlets would hardly have been recognized, and such a deterioration as of \$10 to \$15, or of well nigh 20 per cent. in the matter of prices within the short space of about two months would scarcely have been experienced. The present experience, as affecting sold and unsold stocks,

affects holders, both foreigners and Chinese, and certainly lends a justification to the urgency of the Chinese representation, but, unfortunately, the remedy advocated does not cover present and impending difficulties of a permanent character, and consequently puts it out of the pale of feasible practicability. I am sure the Chinese merchants will not fail to see and scan the inevitable as the competition progresses. It may be said that the remedy for the present state of the trade must come to a greater extent from within. The exercise of economy recommended in working is very desirable, but it can hardly change the relative positions of the trade and industry in India, Japan, and China, as, given the mills, the same principle of economy is not past recognition or enforcement by any of the competitors. The Bombay mills, having a central location in the midst of cotton producing districts, have an immense advantage and superiority over Japan and China. The latter can hardly come up in the point and in the extent of having suitable raw material ready at hand, and however much they may compete, they have to rely for the chief portion of their raw material for manufacturing coarser counts on India and India alone, and the one feature that is not to be neglected is, that, whatever the extent of the competition, the opposition from the mills of India, possessing the indicated natural and permanent advantage, can hardly be extinguished. In this connection the margin of difference between importations in the Far East of the raw material and the manufactured stuff is a vital factor. If the margin of difference is a small quantity, the superiority and natural advantage of the proximity of the raw material are in a great measure minimized. The Japanese mills, seeing the nearness of their parity with India on that score, instituted movements in their country for the abolition of import duty on cotton and export duty on yarn. Having succeeded in the competition has assumed a formidable shape for the Indian mills. Lancashire acted in an analogous manner before. To support and maintain her industry it had been one long struggle with her to get the Indian manufacturing industry fettered. Is it not incumbent on the Bombay mills, under the present changed circumstances of the industry, to work on the same lines? There is much more reason for them to do so. To stem the torrent of foreign competition there is much more reason that the Bombay mills should agitate and institute a movement for the imposition of export duty on raw material to the Far East. The mills in Shanghai are for the most part owned by foreigners, not Britishers. If there was justification for the prolonged struggle of Lancashire against the industry of an allied country, there would be much more justification on the part of India to go in for a movement to protect her industry against for the most part an alien competition. Work the oracle for the imposition of export duty on cotton shipped to the Far East, and as soon as that impost is established, the Indian mills will at once see a return of their former prosperity.—I am, dear sir, yours sincerely,

H. M. MEHTA.

Care of Messrs. Framjee, Hormusjee & Co.  
Hongkong, 22nd September, 1898

[Copy.]

To H. M. MEHTA, Esq.,

Present.

Dear Sir,—We, the undersigned Chinese merchants dealing in Indian yarn and cotton, request you to send a telegram on our behalf to Millowners' Association at Bombay, asking them urgently to work the mills affiliated with the Association short-time. Our reasons for making this request to the Association are:—

Unprecedentedly large stocks—sold and unsold—in this market and in Shanghai without adequate outlets for their immediate consumption. We estimate

Unsold stock in Hongkong 55,000 Bales

Sold " " " 42,000 "

Unsold " " Shanghai 32,000 "

Sold " " " 18,000 "

The rebellion in Kwangsi and Kwangtung has to answer for this unprecedentedly heavy accumulations, and as the uncertainty of its duration and course increases, the demoralization in the two principal markets is ever on the increase, and unless some curtailment of arrivals

transpires, the probability is the markets will further get into demoralization, to the serious detriment of the yarn trade in India and China.

The urgency of the present position is evident here from the figures given above, as also from the accumulations of Japanese and local threads in the principal markets, and the necessity of short time has been recognized both by Japanese and China mills, and we trust it will also be recognized by the Bombay spinners.

We propose your sending the following telegram:—

"Millowners' Association,

"Bombay.

"Chinese merchants unitedly urge necessity mills working short-time. Rebellion Kwangsi, Kwangtung seriously inferring closing outlets. Stocks sold unsold one lac Hongkong—half Shanghai. Urgency retarding shipments extreme."

We are, dear sir, yours faithfully

Hongkong, 8th September 1898.

### DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the Company's offices on 27th Sept. at noon for the purpose of receiving the report of the general managers, together with a statement of accounts to June 30th. Mr. J. H. Lewis presided, and there were also present the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, D. Gubbay, C. H. Thompson (Consulting Committee), W. H. Parfitt, C. A. Tomes, J. H. Babington, W. H. Gaskell, E. Georg, W. S. Bailey, J. H. Cox, W. Parlane, J. M. Michael, T. Arnold, A. V. Apear, Morris, Chan Tong, and Chan Sui.

Mr. PARFITT read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—said Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been in your hands for some days, and with your approval I propose to take them as read. As regards the year's working, attention is called in the report to the increased cost of fuel for the period under review, amounting to nearly \$65,000. As a set-off against this, however, there have been larger cargoes generally and rates of freight were raised where practicable, with the result that the general managers and consulting committee are again in a position to recommend a dividend of 12 per cent., after providing for depreciation and placing a substantial sum to reserve. It is to be hoped that the price of coal will decline to some extent in the near future, although we cannot confidently predict it. The item in the accounts of \$40,000, the difference between the book value and the insured value of the s.s. *Namoa* at the time of her loss, and which, as you will note, has been placed to the credit of profit and loss account, must not be regarded as an earning, and may be considered as included in the amount proposed to be carried to reserve fund. It should also be borne in mind that \$20,000 of this sum was taken from the company's own underwriting account. I am glad to state that our earnings so far for the current year are up to average and there are such indications of a steady expansion of trade that the time is, I think, approaching when, to meet the requirements of shippers who consistently support us and to maintain our position, we shall have to consider increasing our fleet, in addition to the steamer now building. I have nothing further to add. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to reply to any question.

No questions were asked and the report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. BABINGTON.

On the motion of Mr. MORRIS, seconded by Mr. MICHAEL, the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. D. Gubbay, R. Shewan, and C. H. Thompson were re-elected the consulting committee.

On the motion of Mr. BAILEY, seconded by Mr. GEORG, Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. H. Gaskell were re-appointed auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be posted to-morrow morning.

Mr. BAILEY—I have much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the general managers



and staff for the satisfactory report and accounts now in our hands. During the past year the company has had to contend with an additional charge on the working of the steamers, namely, the increased cost of coal, about 6½ per cent. on the capital—no small matter. It is therefore gratifying to see that even with this increased burden our dividend of 12 per cent. is maintained. As trade in China expands I am looking forward to even better returns.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Bailey for his remarks.

### UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-fifth ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's Offices at noon on Thursday, 20th October:—

The Directors have now to submit to the Shareholders a report of the business of the Society for the year 1897, and for the six months ending the 30th June, 1898.

1897.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and re-insurances, amounts to \$1,925,714.80. After providing for a bonus of 20 per cent. on contributions paid in May last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$415,933.85 as per annexed statement.

From this sum the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of \$17 per share, equivalent to 34 per cent. on the paid up capital of \$50 per share, and an addition to the Reserve Fund of \$40,000, raising the reserve to \$1,300,000. The balance remaining of \$205,933.85 they propose to carry forward and thus close the account for the year 1897.

1898.—The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—

Balance of working account to the 30th June as per annexed statement .....	\$ 874,132.12
Adn estimate of premium to 30th September .....	550,000.00
	\$ 1,424,132.12
Estimate of losses to pay .....	500,000.00
	\$ 924,132.12

#### DIRECTORS.

Since the last general meeting Mr. G. B. Dodwell has resigned his seat and Mr. E. S. Wheeler has joined the Board.

In accordance with clause 86 of the Articles of Association, Mr. H. L. Dalrymple and Mr. N. A. Siebs retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

C. S. SHARP, Chairman.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1898.

#### WORKING ACCOUNT, 1897, ON 30TH JUNE, 1898.

Dr.	\$ c.
To working account, balance on 30th June, 1897 .....	674,784.53
To net premium from 1st July to 31st December, 1897 .....	898,198.45
To interest .....	112,889.87
	\$1,685,872.85

Cr.	\$ c.
By agency commissions .....	30,679.17
By agency charges .....	16,037.26
By head office charges .....	56,367.00
By Shanghai charges .....	16,766.92
By London charges .....	69,618.69
By Yokohama charges .....	7,826.61
By Melbourne charges .....	11,476.20
By Singapore charges .....	5,487.22
By remuneration for half-year ending 31st December, 1897, to directors, committees, and auditors .....	10,498.47
By losses and claims paid .....	783,333.70
By exchange .....	218.74
By bonus on contributions account 1897 (declared 20th April, 1898), 20 per cent. ....	26,629.02
By balance .....	415,933.85
	\$1,685,872.85

#### WORKING ACCOUNT, 1898, ON 30TH JUNE, 1898

Dr.	\$ c.
To net premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1898 .....	1,331,472.19
To interest .....	58,177.46
	\$1,389,649.65

Cr.	\$ c.
By agency commissions .....	24,648.73
By agency charges .....	10,080.2
By head office charges .....	47,613.34
By Shanghai charges .....	19,302.05
By London charges .....	57,296.89
By Yokohama charges .....	7,320.79
By Melbourne charges .....	14,149.71
By Singapore charges .....	6,602.25
By remuneration for half-year ending 30th June, 1898, to directors, committees, and auditors .....	10,093.19
By losses and claims paid .....	318,344.82
By exchange .....	165.59
By balance .....	874,132.12
	\$1,389,649.65

#### BALANCE SHEET, ON 30TH JUNE, 1898.

Dr.	\$ c.
To capital 10,000 shares of 250=\$2,500,000 upon which \$50 per share called and paid up .....	500,000.00
To reserve fund .....	1,260,000.00
To unclaimed bonus and dividend .....	16,369.87
To exchange fluctuation account .....	663,948.43
To investment fluctuation account being the increase in market value of securities .....	217,919.32
To working account, 1897, balance .....	415,933.85
To working account, 1898, balance .....	874,132.12
To sundry creditors .....	372,921.38
	\$4,321,224.97

Cr.	\$ c.
By cash on current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	31,900.88
By cash on deposit, viz:—	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	\$213,000.00
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China .....	96,000.00
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd. .....	50,000.00
National Bank of China, Ltd .....	20,000.00
	379,000.00

By cash on mortgage, viz:—	
In Hongkong .....	\$496,887.98
In Shanghai .....	559,999.99
	1,056,887.97

By cash invested in debentures, viz:—	
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited .....	\$52,500.00
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited .....	32,640.00
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited .....	166,480.00
Shanghai Municipal loan .....	40,400.00
	292,020.00

By amount at debit of branches, and agencies	422,645.66
By amount invested in London, viz:—	
In Consols, India Government Guaranteed Railways and other securities .....	£124,001 5 10
Deposited in banks .....	39,000 0 0
	£163,001 5 10

3½ per cent. rupee paper, Rs. 250,000 0 0=£15,500 0 0 .....	160,431.27
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By amount invested in Melbourne, viz:—	
In Government Treasury bonds and other securities .....	£13,834 15 0
Deposited in banks .....	2,000 0 0
	£15,834 15 0

By bills receivable .....	163,896.07
By bills remitted to London agency, 30th June account .....	13,149.54
By sundry debtors .....	1,210.52
	112,953.75
	\$4,321,294.67

### CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-second ordinary meeting, to be held on Tuesday, 11th October, at noon:—

The Directors have now to lay before the shareholders the accompanying statement of accounts for the year ended 30th April last.

The net premium amount to \$1,012,521.95 and the Working Account shows a balance at credit of \$196,342.63.

The Directors recommend that the sum of \$100,000.00 be transferred from the Reserve Fund increasing the balance of Working Account to \$296,342.63 and that this amount be apportioned in the following manner:—

A dividend of 12 per cent. to shareholders (\$3 per share) .....	\$ 72,000.00
A dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not .....	\$ 95,000.00

To be carried to New Account .....

\$129,342.63

\$296,342.63

The Directors regret the unfortunate result of the year's working, which is entirely due to continued reduction in rates and to the abnormal number of total losses and heavy casualties amongst the regular liners and other first class steamers engaged in the Eastern trades. They are pleased to be able to add that the present year has commenced favourably, the premium income being well maintained, whilst losses to date are below the average.

#### DIRECTORS.

Messrs. G. D. Böning, and St. C. Michaelsen retired from the Board on leaving the colony; Messrs. P. Sachse, and A. Haupt accepted invitations from the Directors to fill the vacancies, and their appointment will be submitted for the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. C. Beurmann and P. Sachse retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts, the last named gentleman acting in the absence of Mr. H. U. Jeffries. Messrs. Arnold and Jeffries, offer themselves for re-election.

C. BEURMANN, Chairman.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1898.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL, 1898.

ASSETS.	\$ c.
Cash in hand .....	44,073.58
Fixed deposits with banks .....	200,000.00
Invested in mortgages of properties .....	827,293.74
Bonds of Chinese Imperial Govt loan, 1886 .....	51,187.85
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures .....	150,000.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., debentures .....	5,545.93
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co., debentures .....	50,916.19
London branch:—	
Cash in hand .....	\$ 38,786.93
Indian Government securities .....	350,137.20
Remittances in transit .....	3,843.59
	392,767.72
Australasian branches:—	
Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit .....	134,811.04
Yokohama branch:—	
Cash in hand and in course of collection .....	14,006.03
Interest accrued, but not yet payable .....	11,020.25
Furniture at head office and branches .....	6,215.59
Sundry debtors .....	54,714.83
	\$1,942,552.75

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital subscribed .....	\$2,000,000
Paid-up \$25 on 24,000 shares .....	600,000.00
Reserve fund .....	1,000,000.00
Dividends outstanding .....	10,638.82
Exchange fluctuation account .....	124,322.64
Sundry creditors .....	2,228.66
Profit and loss account .....	196,342.63
	\$1,942,552.75

WORKING ACCOUNT.	\$ c.
To losses .....	992,227.38
To charges, survey fees, &c .....	254,853.16
To directors' and auditors' fees—head office and branches .....	22,423.20
To balance to profit and loss account .....	196,342.63
	\$1,465,846.37

By premia, less re-insurances, return premia and commissions .....	\$ 1,012,521.95
By interest .....	101,407.17
By transfer fees .....	110.00
By amount brought forward from last year .....	35,180.75
	\$1,465,846.37

RESERVE FUND.	\$ c.
To balance on 31st July, 1898 .....	1,000,000.00
By balance on 31st July, 1897 .....	1,000,000.00

### OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

We have received the following report from the General Managers of work done on the Olivers Freehold Mines properties during the month of August:—

Eureka Mine drive at 150 ft. level North.—This drive has been extended a further distance of 20 feet during the month, making a total of 168 feet to date; reef 24 inches wide of fair quality.

300 feet level North.—Work in this drive was only carried on during the first eight days of the



month, the men employed being removed, the reef being poor. It now shows signs of improvement and driving will be resumed at an early date. A distance of 14 feet was driven, making a total of 104 feet to date; reef 5 feet wide.

Intermediate drives have been started North and South, below the 200 feet main level. These are being put in with the double purpose of getting payable stone, and tracing the spots of gold met with on first opening out the 200 feet level. The reef in both drives looks fairly well. In the North drive it is 6 feet 6 inches wide, and in the South drive, 7 feet wide.

A winze has also been started 44 feet South of the main winze, for the same purpose as the drives mentioned.

During the month stoping has been carried on about the 200 and 150 feet levels, and the stopes are looking better than for some time past. A considerable amount of timbering and filling up has also been done.

Eureka B Shaft.—During the month six men were employed sinking the B shaft, and a further distance of twelve feet was sunk, making a total of 100 feet to date. Timber has been put in to a depth of 90 feet. The rock is at present hard and bad for blasting.

The Mine was inspected a short while back by the Government Inspector of Mines. He was thoroughly satisfied with all the workings and gave great credit for it all.

The new Dam is just about finished; rain has fallen, and there is a good supply of water in the dams.

#### SHANGHAI ENGINEERING, SHIP-BUILDING & DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors for presentation at the third ordinary general meeting to be held at Shanghai on the 30th September.

The Directors beg to submit herewith a statement of the accounts for the year ending April 30th, 1898. Including Tls. 14,916.64 brought forward from last year, profit and loss account shows a credit balance of Tls. 25,319.63, which the directors propose to carry forward to new account.

Dock.—The unfortunate land-slips which occurred during the winter, necessitating almost the entire reconstruction of the works, have added greatly to the cost of the dock, besides considerably delaying its completion. The directors feel confident that the difficulties have been overcome and have pleasure in stating the work is progressing in a very encouraging manner.

Plant.—The new plant has all arrived; most of it has been erected and already proved its efficiency.

Directors.—Mr. Douglas Jones retired from the Board on leaving Shanghai, and the vacancy has not been filled. In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. Osborne Middleton now retires, but, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Auditors.—The Accounts have been audited by Mr. R. F. Eastlack and Mr. G. D. Scott, the latter gentleman serving in the place of Mr. Wilmer Harris, who was prevented by illness from performing the duties. Messrs. R. F. Eastlack and Wilmer Harris offer themselves for re-election.

#### POLO.

The third tournament of the year for the Hon. F. H. May's Cup was commenced on Wednesday, 28th September, the competing teams being the Civilians and Regimental team. The sides were:—

KING'S OWN.		CIVILIANS.	
Major Gawne	1	Mr. P. A. Cox	
Capt. Paton	2	Mr. May	
Capt. McLachlan	3	Mr. Hastings	
Capt. Laurie	Back	Mr. Gresson	

It was very late before the game began, it having been advertised for 4.15 p.m., and it was 5.15 p.m. before the game commenced. However, when the Civilian team was collected the umpire ordered play and as the ball was thrown in McLachlan caught it and the Regiment, jumping well into their places, ran it down the ground at once and every man riding off his opponent gave Paton a chance and he scored a goal. As the ball was

again thrown in Gawne secured it and running it down rode off for McLachlan, who, however, only secured a subsidiary. I noticed that one player who lost the head of his stick called for his mafoo, evidently not knowing the rule about anyone coming on the ground. The Regiment now played very well together, each man doing his own work, and their back was thus able to add another goal to their score. Five minutes' play had now been passed. The ball was set rolling again and Hastings got a chance, but missed and McLachlan dropping on to the ball ran it down, but could not hold straight and so only scored a subsidiary. After this May looked like scoring once, but didn't hit straight. However, Hastings soon after redeemed his side by hitting a goal. At the throw in Laurie made a desperate rush down the ground, but missed the ball. However, he quickly recovered and owing to the Civilian side being out of hand was able to get a free hit and landed a long shot through the posts. At the throw in Gresson got away, but had rather a difficult "centring" shot and the ball only went behind. Laurie got a grand run out and on his superior ponies simply waltzed through his adversaries; but Gresson caught an advancing ball and following it up was able to pass on to Cox, who scored a subsidiary. The Civilians now played a little better together and collectively ran the ball down and the honour of scoring fell to Gresson. The Regiment, however, quickly retaliated and Laurie placed another goal to his side's credit. The Civilians towards the end of the first quarter began to play wild, evidently due to want of practice together and the advantage of a properly appointed Captain.

The second quarter commenced with only seven minutes more to play. It was growing dark but just light enough to allow the Regiment to make another goal from a pretty run by McLachlan. The Civilians assumed the attack on the throw in and Laurie was called upon to save his goal, which he did in a very masterful manner, but it was only for a moment, for Hastings again sent a well directed ball between the flags. The remainder of the game was played in the dark and neither I nor the players, I am sure, could see much of the game. It ended up, however, in a win for the Regiment by five goals and five subsidiaries to three goals and one subsidiary. The Regiment have vastly improved since last tournament and deserve their well earned victory. Their second team play the Club to-day at 4.45 p.m. and we hope they will be sharp to time as it spoils the game playing in the dark.

Capt. Des Vaux umpired in a most efficient manner and, thanks to Colonel O'Gorman and his stop watch, the time was kept most accurately, a very essential point. We were glad to see a large concourse of lookers-on, among whom I beg to subscribe myself,

LOOKER-ON.

#### HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

##### GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING.

On Thursday afternoon the general annual meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held in the Cricket Pavilion under the presidency of Dr. J. M. Atkinson, who was supported by Messrs. E. D. Saunders, A. F. Mackay, J. F. Noble (Hon. Treasurer), and H. W. Looker (Acting Hon. Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN observed that the report had been in their hands for some time, and they would gather that last year was the most successful as regarded Association that the club had had. Out of eight matches seven were won. He thought this was very auspicious considering it was the first year of their new ground. He did not think they could possibly have a better ground. He trusted this excellent form would be maintained during the coming season. There was a balance to the credit of the Club and this was also satisfactory. The chief business before them now was the election of officers for the coming season and the election of a committee. Before he moved the adoption of the report some member might have some observations to make with regard to it.

As no one spoke,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report.

Mr. NOBLE seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not think they could do better than re-elect their present president. (Hear, hear.) He would probably be with them again in a short time, although he was now away. He moved that the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart be re-elected president.

Mr. SAUNDERS seconded, and this was carried.

The other elections were:—Treasurer, Mr. J. F. Noble; Secretary, Mr. F. Browne; Captain of Rugby team, Mr. P. G. Davies, R.A.; Captain of Association team, Mr. H. W. Looker; Committee, Messrs. Mackay, Pinckney, C. T. Kew, Parker (King's Own), and Ward. The captains and officers are *ex-officio* members of the committee.

Mr. LOOKER said that as regarded the six-a-side competition, last year it was prolonged until it became rather wearisome; but it was proposed this year, if the members wished it, to have only one round and to complete it in the first fortnight, instead of two rounds, so that they could be sure of having all the men in all the teams in the colony. A circular would be issued in due course. If the members did not choose to go in for it it would be dropped. They could not hold the extraordinary general meeting mentioned in the advertisement, because according to the rules they ought to have 20 members present to form a quorum.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and secretary concluded the proceedings.

#### BURNING OF THE CHINA MERCHANTS' GODOWN AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 19th September.

A fire of the most alarming character broke out shortly before nine o'clock on Saturday night whereby a godown on the Kinleeyuen wharf belonging to the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company and its valuable contents were destroyed. The premises were at the far end of the whole block of godowns, each section so to speak being shut off from the others by means of fire walls and the fire would appear to have originated in the upper storey. The alarm was raised and the Fire Brigade was soon on the scene but for a time little headway could be made on account of the facilities at hand being most inadequate and it was only with difficulty that the stream could be played on to the roof. Shortly afterwards however the whole of the various companies with their engines arrived and were stationed on the pontoon facing the burning buildings from whence a good powerful stream was directed on to the flames. Difficulty too was experienced in entering the premises, the doors being locked, and it was not until the iron facings of the doors and windows melted that the firemen could get at the seat of the fire. In less than ten minutes after the outbreak the flames shot through the roof shedding a lurid light over the shipping in the harbour and it was at once apparent that the fire had got a very strong hold and that it was impossible to save this particular section of the block. The firemen consequently turned their attention to preventing it spreading and were greatly aided in their task by the existence of the fire wall referred to. Detachments of men-o'-war from H.M.S. *Phoenix* and a Japanese gunboat in the harbour were landed with ladders and grappling irons to assist in extinguishing the flames and to preserve order, the crowd which had collected in the vicinity of the conflagration being enormous, whilst the heat given out was intense. At eleven o'clock no apparent check had been made on the ravages of the fire the wooden interior of the building together with the fact that the cargo stowed therein mainly consisting of chests of tea, cotton, etc., forming ready fuel, and the efforts of the brigade were more than hopeless. They succeeded, however, in preventing it spreading to the adjoining warehouses where there was also stored merchandise of a like character. The fire was not really under control until late into the night when the bulk of the firemen retired, but even yesterday water was still being played on to the ruins. The fire float which



was also requisitioned did excellent service when it after long exertions got to the spot, throwing a couple of powerful jets. The extent of the damage is not really known as yet but it is expected to considerably exceed £100,000. The buildings are insured in the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company while as regards the destroyed cargo quite a number of insurance corporations are involved. The cause of the outbreak is not definitely known but is supposed to be due to spontaneous combustion of cotton.—*N. C. Daily News.*

### UNREST IN FUKIEN.

There seems to be considerable excitement in Fukien province over the movements of the Kwangtung and Kwangsi rebels, and despatches are to hand to the effect that a large body of malcontents from a place on the Fukien coast called Yangken, belonging to Yenpingfu prefecture, have raised the flag of rebellion, headed by several well-known and wealthy notables of the first-named town. So also in the district of Shouning, in Funing prefecture, several risings have taken place, culminating in the union of all the insurgent bands into a formidable whole. The Viceroy Pien has sent troops to quell this rebellion.—*N. C. Daily News.*

### STRIKE OF COTTON OPERATIVES AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 21st September.

The local cotton spinning trade, speaking as a whole, suffered what it is to be hoped is but a temporary check yesterday on account of the operatives at a leading mill displaying unmistakable signs of dissatisfaction with the management. It appears that an arrangement was come to on the part of the masters whereby the system of payment should be changed from time to piece work,—the origin of so many labour disturbances at home. The result was notified to the workpeople, but was not received in the majority of instances in a favourable spirit, so much so that in consequence of the small number of hands returning to work at the Soy Chee Cotton Mills the premises had to be shut down after the midday meal. There were also signs of discontent at the Laou Kung Mow Mill, but although an indifferent system of intimidation was practised on the part of the women at Soy-chee, work at Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's E-wo factory was conducted without the least outward signs of disapproval. That a labour struggle has been initiated there can be no doubt, but it is not thought that it will assume any more serious proportions. Should it, the action of the workpeople will, in the opinion of an expert, recoil on their own heads as the movement will only tend to lower the price of cotton. The cause of the dispute may not be far distant from the fact that Chinese compradores are engaged at certain places whilst at others, as at Ewo, the hands are paid direct.—*N. C. Daily News.*

The strike has since terminated.

### SUICIDE OF AN AMERICAN NAVAL CHAPLAIN.

JUMPS OVERBOARD AT NAGASAKI.

A sad case of suicide occurred at Nagasaki early on Monday morning, 12th September. Among the passengers on board the U.S. transport *Zealandia*, now in the local dockyard undergoing repairs occasioned by damages received during a typhoon on the way up from Manila, was the Rev. Mr. Freeman, chaplain to the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, whose mind had unfortunately become unhinged by the terrible events of the 1st of May in Manila Bay. The reverend gentleman was placed under observation and a passage for San Francisco was eventually taken for him in the *Zealandia* by the U.S. authorities. On the arrival of the vessel at Nagasaki Mr. Freeman's condition was found to be very serious, and arrangements were being made for his transference ashore to hospital. Early on Monday morning, however, at about four o'clock, a sailor on duty saw Mr. Freeman, who rushed past him and deliberately jumped overboard. An alarm was at once raised and a boat lowered, but nothing could be seen of the unfortunate gentleman. The body was subsequently recovered.

### THE INQUEST.

An inquest was held on the 13th September on board the *Zealandia*, before the U.S. Consul, Mr. C. H. Harris, acting as Coroner, and a special jury consisting of Messrs. W. H. Evans and R. H. Powers, and the Rev. J. C. Davidson.

Thomas Dowdall said—I am master of the *Zealandia*. Chaplain Freeman came on board at Manila from the *Baltimore* as a passenger to San Francisco. I never noticed anything about him, save melancholy. He looked naturally. He was not put in anyone's charge and I did not think it necessary to confine him, but kept watch on him to see that he was not allowed to leave the ship. He occasionally went ashore with someone. A quartermaster reported to the Chief Officer at 4 a.m. on Monday that Chaplain Freeman had jumped overboard. The body was recovered about 12 o'clock midnight the same day. I have seen and identified the body.

Thos. P. Deering said—I am chief officer of the *Zealandia*. A few minutes before 4 a.m. on Monday Quartermaster Lowrath came and reported that Chaplain Freeman had jumped overboard. I turned out and used every endeavour to recover the body, but was unsuccessful. I have seen and identified the body.

William Lowrath said—I am a quartermaster on the *Zealandia*. At 3.50 a.m. on Monday, I came up on the port side to call the watch. I called the quartermaster on the port side and was coming over to the starboard side around the corner of the house, when I heard someone calling out, "Telegraph my wife the result of this and send her my money." As soon as I heard this I ran aft, some fifteen or thirty feet from where I first stood. I saw a man standing over the side of the ship. One foot was on the chock of a davit five feet down the ship's side, and one hand was holding on to the edge of the ship's side. I stooped down, trying to catch him, but did not get a good hold. At the same time, the deceased let go and dropped. I saw that he had lead sinkers tied round his waist. I then waited for some minutes and then called the Chief Officer. He told me to put a hand lead line over the side and tie something over the side so that we would know where he went down. I thought the deceased very eccentric and very restless. I have since seen the body, having assisted to recover it, and recognise it as that of Mr. Freeman.

William P. Elliot, Lieut. U.S.N., testified that deceased was suffering from melancholia, but it was not thought necessary to place anyone in charge of him. On Sunday afternoon before going ashore witness left orders that deceased should not leave the ship until the return of witness, but on arrival on board ship on Monday morning he learned that deceased had committed suicide.

C. H. Lowell, surgeon on the *Zealandia*, stated that the deceased was placed on board at Manila, suffering from melancholia. He gave no trouble to anyone on board and it was not thought necessary to confine him. He, however, grew worse after arrival at Nagasaki, but gave no signs of any suicidal intentions. Witness last saw him alive at 10 o'clock on Sunday night.

The following verdict was returned:—We find that the body is that of T. S. Freeman late Chaplain in the U.S. Navy, a passenger on the transport *Zealandia*. That the deceased took his life by drowning himself whilst under a temporary aberration of mind, produced by melancholy, whilst the vessel was lying at anchor in Nagasaki Harbour. We find that deceased was well treated by the officers of the vessel and that Lieut. Elliot, U.S.N., was particularly kind and watchful to deceased.—*Nagasaki Press.*

The following French naval movements are published by the *Avenir du Tonkin*:—The *Jean Bart* is to be the flag ship. The *Pascal* is at Manila. The *Bruiz* and *Eclairer*, at present at Along Bay, are returning to France. The *Duguay-Trouin* is to return to the Pacific. The *Bayard* has been dismantled and her guns have been landed for the shore defences of the Hongay passes. The *Bayard* will remain at Hongay as a hulk. Two sea going torpedo boats are shortly expected at Saigon from France.

### NEWCHWANG.

"RUSSIAN TOWN," AND WHAT THE RUSSIANS ARE DOING.

12th September.

At present there are four steamers along the banks at "Russian town," discharging railway sleepers, cement, etc., and room will be provided for more. Substantial stone and cement wharves for the accommodation of eight vessels are being built. The stone for the purpose will be obtained from the neighbouring coast and conveyed hither by chartered steamers by the Russians themselves, all negotiations with the Chinese having proved futile, and the tenders which the latter submitted were considered 50 per cent. too high. Several large tramp steamers are to arrive from New York before the winter shuts down, one of which is due now. The cargoes consist of rails, dislocated railway cars, and locomotives. Large sheds are being constructed where two hundred Russian mechanics will be at work during the winter putting together this disjointed machinery. The entire Manchurian railway under construction is divided into three sections, each section having its own headquarters. The section in our neighbourhood has its headquarters here, and altogether 40,000 coolies will be employed on it during the forthcoming winter. About forty miles of the permanent way is ready for the sleepers to be laid and before next spring locomotives will be placed on the rails. The work is carried on most systematically and without interruption. All supervising is done by the Russians; even the coolies have cossacks as overseers. The latter are met with occasionally garbed after the fashion of Chinese, and with the cheekbone and imagination of orientals present passable imitation Manchus. The cossacks are a hardy lot and the treatment they receive here is far from the traditional kind. They are however well fed. Their daily allowance comprises 3lbs. bread, 1lb. beef and a liberal allowance of vegetables. In addition 10 kopecks for extras are allowed per diem. The hundreds of Russians already in the neighbourhood are being constantly augmented by new arrivals. They include all sorts and conditions of humanity, from a Director of Posts and Telegraphs of Siberia, with the rank of general, to the homely spouse of the humblest cossack. The occidental and oriental fraternize cordially enough where there is nothing to lose, but reports from inland differ. One hears of regular skirmishes between cossack and farmer and outrages of various kinds. The land is taken from the farmer at the Russian's own valuation, growing crop not being considered at all in many cases. The farmer may look towards the Chinese official but he gets no redress and in his plight he has to fight for dear home and existence—and the Russian being the fittest, survives! However, the higher authorities on either side are arranging for a method to valuate the land to the satisfaction of both sides. It is even hinted that these troubles are utilized as a plea for throwing more soldiery into the country for maintenance of order along the line.

A Belgian syndicate has contracted with the Russians for the monopoly of establishing restaurants and hotels along the entire line of the Manchurian railway; the terms are at present withheld.

Messrs. Clarkson & Co., merchants of Vladivostok and New York, have opened a branch office here. Their large contract with the Railway for carrying material alone requires local representation. In addition to their own fleet of steamers they have chartered a number of Japanese ships and several tramps.

Messrs. Bush Brothers have ceased to be agents of the Russo-Chinese Bank at this port. Although most liberal offers were made nothing could induce the firm or any of its members to continue the connection. Messrs. McCallum and Schmidt are now the local co-managers of the Bank, the Railway claiming most of their time. Branches of this Bank have been established at some of the principal towns, through which the railway will pass. A party of three gentlemen recently left this port for Kirin in the Bank's interest.

Dr. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent, arrived recently, but was hastily recalled to Peking after a short stay of twenty-four hours. H.M. torpedo-boat destroyer *Fame* has been in



port for sixteen days, and is the first British war ship to visit us this year. The British Admiral is daily expected to arrive.—*Mercury* correspondent.

### COOLIE VIOLENCE AT NAGASAKI.

Nagasaki, 20th September.

Last Friday afternoon, between 3 and 4 o'clock, Miss Jesselsen, who was walking home through the private road leading to Ipponmatsu, was wantonly attacked by a Japanese coolie. Miss Jesselsen was alone and the coolie was walking up the hill behind her, when he called out to her in Japanese, "Where are you going?" Miss Jesselsen made no answer and walked on, but the man soon overtook her, and asked in an insolent tone, "What did you say?" He then seized her by the neck and pushed her against the wall, holding her there by both arms. Miss Jesselsen cried out in alarm, and the coolie then threw her to the ground, and immediately ran away. This occurred close to Mrs. George's house, and Miss Jesselsen at once took refuge there.

Miss Jesselsen had noticed that her assailant wore an apron and carried a note-book, and for this reason it was supposed that he was a coolie employed by a rice-merchant, who was transacting some business with one of the houses in the neighbourhood. At the request of Mrs. George, the rice-merchant sent up the suspected man, who was identified by Miss Jesselsen and was promptly arrested by the police (who had in the meantime been sent for). We understand that the arrested man denies all knowledge of the affair.

Mr. Müller-Beech, the German Consul, kindly informed us yesterday, on enquiry, that he had taken a deposition concerning the assault from Miss Jesselsen, and that he had had interviews with the Inspector of Police and the Governor of Nagasaki, requesting them to take necessary steps to secure the proper punishment of the offender. Mr. Müller-Beech added that, while this was the most wanton and disgraceful assault on a German subject that had been brought to his notice, it did not stand alone, several complaints regarding coolie insolence and violence having recently been lodged with him.—*Nagasaki Press*

### HONGKONG.

There were 2,432 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 186 were Europeans.

The *City of Rio de Janeiro* arrived from Manila on 25th Sept. en route for San Francisco with invalided troops on board.

Amongst the passengers who left for the North on 28th Sept. by the *Empress of Japan* was the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, who is taking a month's holiday.

We are informed that a private telegram has been received stating that the tributors have struck a rich lode of ore at the Balmoral Mine.

H.M.S. *Blenheim* is under orders to leave for England on Sunday next, after exchanging crews with the *Barfleur*. The latter is now flying the paying-off pennant.

The transport *St. Paul* arrived from Manila on Thursday with nine Chinese passengers and 33 European passengers, the latter consisting of 11 officers, 18 soldiers, and four sailors of the U. S. army and navy.

The appointment of Mr. Mackie to be Acting Deputy Superintendent of Police, Assistant Superintendent of the Gaol, and Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, during the absence of Mr. Badeley, is gazetted.

We hear that an arrangement has been arrived at by the various Companies, foreign and Chinese, interested in the Canton River trade, which will put an end to the extreme competition that has prevailed for some time past.

A coolie named Chang Sing was charged at the Magistracy on 27th Sept. with assaulting a widow. It seems that he was squabbling with the widow's son, who put him out of the house, whereupon defendant threw a pot at him. It missed the son and hit the mother on the head, injuring her so much that she had to be taken to the hospital. A fine of \$7, or 28 days, was imposed, defendant being further ordered to pay \$5 compensation, the alternative being 14 days.

At the Magistracy on 23rd Sept. W. F. Giles, an A. B. of the *Khelat*, was sentenced to 14 days for absenting himself from the ship without leave. George Horsley, charged with a similar offence, was ordered to be put on board by the police.

Four small river gunboats for the reinforcement of the China squadron are being sent out in sections and will be put together by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company. Their names are the *Woodlark*, *Woodcock*, *Sandpiper*, and *Snipe*.

The commanders, officers, and engineers of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Limited, have received an advance of 20 per cent. in their pay. The pay of the senior officers now stands at one half in sterling of what it did twenty years ago.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China have received telegraphic advice from the Head Office in London that at the approaching meeting of shareholders of the Bank the directors will recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, free of income tax.

Inspector Duncan finds plenty to do in bringing the possessors of unjust weights and scales light. On Saturday at the Magistracy he gave evidence against Ho-Heng Po, of 93, Queen's Road East, stating that he found scales in his possession 25 per cent. against the purchaser. Defendant has two or three other shops. A fine of \$150 was imposed.

At the Magistracy on Saturday the occupiers of 88, Wellington Street; 28, D'Aguilar Street; and 24, D'Aguilar Street were each fined \$10 for obstructing footpaths with their goods. The occupier of No. 9, Lyndhurst Terrace, was fined \$15 for a similar offence, and the occupier of 3, Graham Street, \$20, the latter having been fined \$10 recently for a like offence.

At noon on Thursday Mr. Hough (Messrs. Hughes and Hough) offered for sale by auction the screw steamer *Wing Foo*, with all her gear, boats, anchors, chains, etc., on board. Her gross tonnage is 95.62 and net 59.26. She is 93ft. 4in. long, 15 feet wide, and 8ft. 2in. deep. She was built in Hongkong in 1897. After some spirited bidding she was knocked down for \$15,300.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board held on 22nd September it was agreed, in view of the unanimous opinion of medical experts that rats are an important factor in the dissemination of bubonic plague, to request the authority of the Government to expend a sum of money, not exceeding \$1,000, in rewards for live rats, which would have to be delivered to an officer of the Sanitary Board or of the Police, and forthwith destroyed by him.

For assaulting an Indian constable on Monday a Chinese fireman was fined \$10 or a month, by Commander Hastings on 27th Sept. The constable found defendant and another man fighting and he arrested them. While taking them to No. 2 Police Station defendant called out, "Fight." There was a crowd following them, and the constable was seized from behind and defendant assaulted him. He blew his whistle and two other constables came to his assistance.

At the Magistracy on Thursday Mr. Reece asked for a mitigation of the sentence of three months in the case of the woman charged with assaulting a girl the other day. He said the girl was quarrelling with some children in the street and her mistress fetched her in and corrected her with a rattan. The woman was a respectable person. Commander Hastings said he could not see his way to granting the application. The girl was one mass of bruises from head to heel. There had been too many of these cases lately. He had tried imposing the maximum penalty of \$100, but without effect.

At the Harbour Office on 27th Sept. William Calder, boatswain of the s.s. *Empress of Japan*, was charged with assaulting John Hogan, an A. B. of the same vessel, in Victoria Harbour. Complainant said that at twenty minutes past ten on Monday morning he was cleaning paint-work on the port side of the saloon deck. When he had finished he went below. Defendant came down and asked him if he had a pot. He said he had not, whereupon defendant struck him with his hand. Complainant told him he would have to pay for this, and that if he could not get satisfaction on board he would get it on shore. Commander Rumsey dismissed the case.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received a telegram from the mines as follows:—"400 tons stone crushed yielding 7 dwts. to the ton; milling delayed owing to breakdown in the mill; mill working again; plenty of water."

A capital concert was given in the Kowloon Institute on Wednesday evening. Several well-known vocalists appeared and also the popular elocutionist Mr. W. Muskett, who recited with considerable effect "Kissing Cup's race," "Shamus O'Brien," Mr. S. H. Somerton sang "Thursday" and "Out on the deep," Mrs. Hands "Dear Homeland" and "One summer noon," Mrs. H. L. Stringer "Why must we say good-bye," and Mr. Carter "Be brave, be true," the last named also contributing a banjo solo. Several pieces were played by the orchestra. Messrs. T. G. Hughes and A. J. M. Farr were the accompanists.

Philip Maret, of the *Blenheim*, appeared at the Magistracy on 23rd Sept. to answer a charge of being disorderly in a public street. P.C. 514 said at one o'clock that morning he was on duty in Stanley Street, when he saw defendant, who was creating a disturbance and striking some Chinese. There was a crowd round him. He took defendant, who was not sober, to No. 7 Police Station. Witness did not go into a house and wake defendant. The sergeant in charge of No. 7 Police Station said defendant was not drunk when brought in. A fine of \$5, or 14 days was imposed.

A day or two ago two Chinese postmen waiting on Pedder's Wharf for the launch were overheard discussing the recent conviction of one of their *fokis* in whose box were discovered stolen letters from which the stamps had been removed. One of them made the remark that the man was a fool and that he should have burnt the letters, when all the evidence against him would have been destroyed. The remark was perhaps rather an obvious one, but it suggests the question whether the speaker himself is in the habit of acting in accordance with his suggestion.

The German steamer *Daphne*, which arrived on 25th Sept. from Nagasaki, reports that about forty miles east of Foungting she spoke a dismantled Chinese junk. The people on board said they were from Amoy bound for a Northern port with salt and that on the 20th August they, with two other junks sailing in company, were caught in a typhoon and driven out to sea, their mast being carried away. Their provisions being exhausted the *Daphne* provided them with provisions and water. It was fine weather at the time with a light easterly wind. Nothing was seen of the other two junks.

An Australian Chinaman named Charles Dane was charged at the Magistracy on Thursday with being in possession of seven tael of opium without a permit. Constable Land, by virtue of a warrant, visited No. 2, Stanton Street, on Wednesday night with five other officers, who had been searched before leaving the Central Police Station for the purpose of seeing that they had no opium in their possession. On the ground floor in a cubicle the opium produced was found under a bed on which defendant was lying smoking opium. Defendant admitted he was the occupier of the room. He produced no valid certificate for the opium. A fine of \$100, or three months, was imposed.

At the Magistracy on 26th Sept. John Varnabo (Swede), Calla Lappala (Russian), Olaf Olsen (Norwegian), and Petey Anderson (Swede), of the Norwegian ship *Prince Arthur*, were charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Government Civil Hospital. Wong Hing, ward-master at the Hospital, said that at half-past five on Sunday afternoon defendants came into the hospital to see patients. They were drunk and it was after hours. He asked them to go away and first defendant struck him on the forehead. A coolie came to his assistance and first and second defendants knocked him about. Then an Indian sergeant came, and there was a free fight. Defendants also struck the gate-keeper when he tried to stop them. Witness telephoned for the police, who came and arrested defendants. They were each fined \$15, or six months, and were each fined a further \$15, or six weeks, for assaulting the ward-master and the others.



The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company were charged at the Magistracy on Thursday with allowing No 3 launch to be without a certificated master on board on Tuesday morning. Constable Gourlay said the launch was alongside Bank Wharf. He was on board No. 3 police pinnace. He called out for the Dock launch to move. She did not move at first, but eventually she did so. He called her back and on boarding her found that there was no certificated master on board. The man at the wheel said the master had gone ashore. Ng Kam Hi said he was the master of the launch in question. His mother called him ashore, and when he returned he found the launch had moved away. Fined \$10.

Chenng Ming is a prisoner in Victoria Gaol and he was charged before Commander Hastings on 23rd Sept. with attempting to take out of the gaol a letter entrusted to him by another prisoner. An Indian guard said that on Thursday at noon defendant, who was in his charge, was washing the floor. He was removing his jacket when he saw him take the piece of paper produced and secrete it in his waistband. When he found out he had been discovered defendant tried to swallow the paper, but witness seized him and took it out of his mouth. The prisoner who wrote the paper said he gave it to defendant, as he understood he was to be discharged on the following day. He wished him to give it to his wife. Defendant, who said he picked the paper up, was fined \$25, or six weeks.

Commander Hastings sentenced Lam Tak Wing to six months imprisonment on Saturday for stealing a brass watch and chain, a pair of trousers, and a pair of shoes from a school boy on the 14th September. It appears that complainant went for a walk with defendant and another man named A Sui. When near Pokfulam road defendant seized him by the throat and tied a handkerchief round his neck, A Sui tying his hands behind his back. The boy called out "Save life," and a man from the church close by rushed out, and the other men decamped with the articles in question. Last Friday the boy and some school fellows were bathing in the stream above Glenealey when he saw defendant, and he and his companions seized him and gave him into custody.

In his report for 1897 Dr. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, says:—Plague made its appearance again towards the end of May, no cases having been reported since the previous November. Three cases were admitted from Heung Lane between the 21st and 25th May; this is one of the narrow lanes off Queen's Road West. It was here that some of the first cases occurred in 1895; this lane and the houses abutting thereon were declared an infected area on the 20th May and promptly dealt with. The recrudescence of the disease in lanes such as these, which are hemmed in by the neighbouring houses and are practically devoid of light and ventilation, shows the urgent necessity of the Government's resuming such insanitary areas, demolishing the buildings, and reconstructing the streets and houses. Fortunately this disease did not obtain a footing in the colony this year.

The American-Spanish war has not been without causing serious consequences to the staff of the British Consular Service. Already we have recorded the death of Mr. Rawson Walker at Manila and the home papers lately have reported other casualties elsewhere of a fatal character. By the last mail we now hear of the death of Colonel Allan Maclean, R.A., Her Majesty's Consul in the Canary Islands. According to a home paper, the extreme anxiety connected with the war and the antagonism of the Spaniards and the excessive work of constantly receiving and sending off the state cypher telegrams to which he alone had the key, fatally prostrated him. Colonel Maclean, who was a son of Major-General Maclean, R.A., and a near relative of the Norfolk, Somerset and Calthorpe families, and had a brilliant career before him, died in London at St. Thomas' Home, whither he had been taken for treatment, on the 20th August, and was buried at Wimborne Minster, Dorset, the family seat, on the 24th. He was heir to the Lazenby Hall estate, Somerset, which will now revert to his eldest son, Henry Somerset Maclean. Colonel Maclean was, we understand, a brother-in-law of Mr. J. W. Norton-Kyshe, the Registrar of the Supreme Court in this colony.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The officers of the coasting steamers, having petitioned their employers, have been offered an increase of pay. Chief officers are to receive \$90 a month for the first year and \$105 for the next, while second officers get \$60 and \$80 respectively.—*Union*.

A Japanese paper learns that on the 7th inst. the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation purchased 520,000 silver yen from the Bank of Japan. It is surmised that the silver yen have been purchased for circulation in Hongkong.—*Nagasaki Press*.

Among the vessels at Colombo when the mail left was a Norwegian steamer, the *Olga*—a whaling boat from South Shields and bound for Nagasaki, prior to proceeding to the Siberian coast, where she has been chartered by the Russian Government for the purpose of whale catching. The vessel is of the usual small description with a gross tonnage of 36, and she is manned by a crew of twelve men, in command of Capt. F. Olsen.

It is reported that Mr. Macdona, M.P., who is at present in the North, has signed a contract with the Chinese Government for the construction of a railway connecting Hangchow, Soochow, and Shanghai. The Belgians (?) are also endeavouring to obtain a contract for a line connecting Hangchow with Shaohsing, Ningpo, and Wenchow; the survey for which is being made by an Italian engineer named Licordi.—*China Gazette*.

A fire broke out at Shanghai about 11.40 p.m. on Friday, 16th September, in an opium shop at No. 161, Shanse Road, which rapidly spread to the adjoining houses. Although the Fire Department soon appeared on the scene, the fire had made such progress that it was not until thirteen houses had been destroyed that it was got under control. The proprietor of the opium shop has been arrested, but so far has given no information regarding the origin of the conflagration. The property was owned by Messrs. Lester, Schultz, and Dowdall and Hanson. Most of the property was insured, but to what extent we have not been able to learn. The companies involved are the Hongkong, the North British, and the Imperial.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The damage inflicted in Yokohama harbour on the Italian cruiser *Marco Polo* by the collision with the British ship *Lyndhurst* during the recent storm was more important than was originally supposed, says the *Herald*. The sailing ship drifted bow on to the Italian man-of-war, and what sailing ships can do in the way of damage has only lately been proved in the lamentable *Bourgoigne* disaster. The *Marco Polo* was luckily only hit above the water-line, so that the damage can be repaired without her going into dock, which would occasion extra expense, which up to now amounts to about yen 18,000. It is an open question who will have to pay for the damage, but we hear that a claim has been lodged by the Italian Consul against the Standard Oil Co., the owners of the *Lyndhurst*.

The British barque *Heathfield*, which put into Yokohama on the 12th September, had a rough experience. While on a voyage from Shanghai to Tacoma she was caught in the typhoon about 80 miles off the Japanese coast. Her sails were blown away, the stanchions of her hold broke, and the ballast shifted. The crew were set to work to put this right, but in trying to do so, through a heavy lurch to starboard, the mate (Mr. Grant) and a seaman were buried above the waist in ballast. They fortunately escaped serious injury, but it took some time to dig them out, and meanwhile every hand was badly wanted on deck. Some of the ship's boats were washed away, and she lay for a long time in the trough of the sea with her main yard buried in water and frequently seas washed over her topsail yard arms. Fortunately the gale moderated, or the barque would probably have been lost. When the weather cleared all hands were set to trim ballast, and to pump out the large quantities of water which had got into the starboard bilge. The voyage into Yokohama was made with difficulty, as the steering gear had suffered badly. The bad weather lasted altogether some four days, and the Captain, Mr. McKenzie, has seldom in a long experience seen such heavy seas. He was accompanied by his daughter.—*Japan Mail*.

The Weihaiwei correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—It is said that two battleships and a destroyer will be stationed here for the coming winter. The rest of the ships will go South. There is talk of Admiral Seymour in company with Sir Claude Macdonald taking a voyage up the Yangtze this autumn, on one of the destroyers. It is surely well that the highest English officials stationed in China should now and then in person visit that region, though such a journey on such a craft can scarcely be called a pleasure trip.

The *Universal Gazette's* Wuchang correspondent reports the arrival at that port of 10,000 additional spindles the other day for the Hupeh Cotton Weaving Mills, the machinery having been ordered through the agency of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co., of Shanghai. The same paper says the mills in question are now running short time. Business since spring had been exceedingly good, most of the output having been sent to the order of Szechuan merchants. Lately, however, owing to the bankruptcy of a number of Szechuan hong, aggregating it is said a total of something like three million taels, there has been no money to take over the yarn and piece goods of the two mills in question, in consequence of which the authorities there now have nearly 3,000 bales in excess on their hands.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* of August 23rd, alluding to the death of Mr. H. Hennessey, purser of the *Doric*, says:—"By the death of Harry Hennessey, who had served as purser for fully thirty years in the employ of the Pacific Mail Company, one of the most familiar figures on the run between this port and the Orient has been removed. Hennessey was taken sick about ten days ago, and for the first time in many years the steamer *Doric* sailed without him. He gradually grew worse, and the end came yesterday at the Westminster from a complication of troubles culminating in Bright's disease. In his many voyages across the Pacific Hennessey gained the friendship of a large circle, both in this city and in the East. He was a native of New York, where he was born in 1841. His wife, Mrs. Mary Hennessey, and a daughter, Miss Minnie Hennessey, survive him."

A *Te Deum* was sung at Macao on the 22nd September on the occasion of the anniversary of the great typhoon of 1874. The *Lusitano* says this annual service is one of the most numerous attended of all that take place in Macao and many people are seen there who are hardly ever seen at other religious observances. Nor is this matter for surprise, for all who were in Macao at that time recall with horror the dark day when two terrible elements swept over the city—tempest and fire. Those who passed through the events of that day still preserve mementoes of it, and there is not a house in which its sad memory does not remain, a day when it was thought the city was about to disappear altogether. Therefore on each 22nd September the people of Macao go to church to render thanks to God for having preserved them from greater perils and to implore his protection against any similar cataclysm.

The Masonic Hall at Shanghai was on Thursday night, 22nd September, the scene of an interesting ceremony, when Right Wor. Brother C. Thorne, on behalf of Bro. Dr. Cooper, presented the District Grand Lodge with a portrait of the present District Grand Master, the Right Wor. Brother Lewis Moore. The portrait, which is a most excellent one of over life size, was painted by Dr. Cooper's brother, and completes the series of portraits of District Grand Masters of the province. On the same occasion it was determined in conjunction with the entire Masonic community to hold the inauguration ball, as well of the new building as of the season, at as early a date as possible. The new building is considerably extended in size and accommodation, while the defects in the old which rendered it as a place of public entertainment for some time inadvisable have been carefully avoided in the new, the floors of which are carried by rolled steel girders, replacing the original wooden beams.—*Shanghai Daily Press*.



According to a Wuchang despatch, H.E. Chang Chih-tung intends very soon to build an Observatory in connection with one of his new Colleges of Western Learning in that city, and a very large-sized and powerful telescope is to be ordered from abroad for it.—*N. C. Daily News.*

A remarkable prospectus of a proposed native Fire Insurance Company has been published at Canton. It is addressed "To the Red Cross Society, Europe," and commences with the remark that "according to the history of the world human being had been ignorant and barbarous before they were civilized and gentle." After a lot of almost unintelligible jargon, in which is quoted the opinion of "some ones" to the effect that "the proposed association can effect a subsidence of wars in the world," we come to a proposal for the establishment of a Mutual Fire Insurance Association. The prospectus has been submitted to the Nam Hoi Magistrate for his approval, and it is not surprising to learn that he has found many articles impracticable and has returned the same with certain modifications for the committee's further consideration.

### COMMERCIAL.

#### TEA.

SHANGHAI, 24th September.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular.)—Our last "printed" Tea market advices were under date 12th instant. From Hankow we hear that the third crop had already reached 80,000 half-chests, against totals of 61,000 half-chests and 15,500 half-chests for the two previous seasons. The Russian demand showed signs of slackening, but the unsold stock was small. Black Tea.—There is nothing new to report in this market. Teamen are not forcing their holdings, and only a small business has been done at about former rates.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow	1,341	1/2-chts.	at Tls. 16 1/2 to 22
Keemun	225	"	" 20 1/2
Hohow	462	"	" 16 1/2
Kutoan	171	"	" 19
Wenchow	192	"	" 15

2,394 1/2-chests.

Stock, 6,532 1/2-chests.

Green Tea.—Pingsuey.—A small business is reported, the settlements being chiefly lines on the same basis of prices as those reported by last mail. A couple of chops have been shipped on native account. Country Teas.—Seem to have found bottom for the present and more general though cautious buying has been the feature of the past fortnight. Prices have been fairly steady and Teamen had shown less anxiety to quit, in fact some owners of finest Teas, being dissatisfied with present rates, are withholding their chops from the market. Tienkai and Moyune have received about equal attention. Fychows and Local Packs have been neglected. Arrivals to date are within a few thousand half-chests of those to same date last year, but there is not the same incentive this season to bring every possible leaf to market, and supplies are expected to show a decrease as the season advances. Imperials promise to be very short this season, the leaf having been put into the Hysons. Owing to Russian demand early in the season nearly all the Sow-mee (Young Hysons) have been taken out of the Moyune chops, and large stocks of these have accumulated in the hands of Teamen Hysons.—The *Saratto* is now loading for Ode-sa and Batoum and will take a considerable quantity. "Choicest" Teas are in small compass and command full rates. In the grades below there is a decided decline; Teas for which Tls. 33/34 were declined are now offering at Tls. 28/29 a picul. Stocks are large.

A fire at the China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s Wharf on 17th instant destroyed:—

12,728 boxes	Pingsuey Green Tea.
1,300 half-chests,	Wenchow
81 "	Fychow

Settlements reported are:—

Pingsuey	2,452	at Tls. 24 to 47	a picul.
Moyune	11,975	"	19 to 41 1/2
Tienkai	9,145	"	18 to 32
Fychow	1,291	"	17 to 19 1/2
Local packed	678	"	16 1/2 to 17

25,544 1/2-chts.

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

1898-99.		
	Settlements.	Stock.
	1/2-chts.	1/2-chts.
Pingsuey	23,710	19,667
Moyune	34,855	
Tienkai	27,563	31,825
Fychow	9,241	
Local packed	12,897	3,495
Total	108,266	54,991

1897-98.		
	Settlements.	Stock.
	1/2-chts.	1/2-chts.
Pingsuey	56,072	25,743
Moyune	43,429	
Tienkai	41,867	11,658
Fychow	14,13	
Local packed	13,979	451
Total	172,460	37,825

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	9,277,051	10,703,236
Foochow	9,756,643	9,998,794
Amoy	332,886	435,964
Canton	2,423,739	2,998,927
Total	21,790,319	23,916,721

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	7,486,004	10,548,140
Amoy	5,409,716	8,692,846
Foochow	4,236,327	5,628,430
Total	17,132,047	24,869,416

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	22,676,902	19,375,665

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	18,221,575	18,448,967
Kobe	6,923,619	9,682,782
Total	25,145,194	28,131,749

#### SILK.

CANTON, 19th September.—Re-reels.—No business has transpired during the fortnight under review. Tsatlees.—There was a little demand for London, but prices offered being generally too low, we do not think any business has been done in these sorts. Crops.—As was the case with the previous crops, the 5th crop has also been overestimated and it will probably not exceed 8,000 bales. Filatures.—Have remained almost neglected. Dealers are not under immediate pressure to sell, most of the good filatures being engaged for the next 4-6 weeks. Short-reels.—For America have attracted but little attention, the New York market being well supplied. Waste.—Quiet, with moderate transactions.

SHANGHAI, 24th September.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular.)—Home markets are firm, and quotations for Blue Elephants from London and for Gold Killings from Lyons are 10/6 and 27 Fes. respectively. Raw Silk.—In spite of the very general idea that business would not be possible unless holders of Tsatlees made concession to meet buyers' ideas, a good deal has been done and at full rates as well. Buying commenced early in the week, and total settlements of Tsatlees must be fully 700,000 bales. The buying, however, has not been general. Holders are firm, and as stocks here are so light we may expect a firm to strong market for some time; the high Tael rates obtainable here have not brought down as much silk as was expected, and in spite of a crop larger than last year, we may have an export less than the previous season, as more silk than anticipated will go into native consumption. Yellow Silks.—About 100 bales have changed hands, market quiet. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, September 17th to 23rd are: 1,005 bales White, 430 bales Yellow, and 122 bales Wild Silks Re-reels and Filatures.—The market for Hand Filatures is very quiet, only one or two transactions having taken place. In Steam Filatures business is on a very small scale. It is in-

teresting to note that the export of Steam Filatures to same date last year was some 1,800 bales more; the export to date to America this year shows a decrease of about 1,200 bales, and to the Continent about 600 bales. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 955 bales to the Continent, 573 bales to America, and 43 bales to England. Wild Silks.—Quiet, with small daily transactions. Waste Silks.—Little doing, a few settlements have been made in Curlies on the basis of Tls. 4 1/2 for 60 per cent. No. I, 30 per cent No. II, 10 per cent. No. III Cargo.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/8 1/2; Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.

	Tls.	Stlg.
	per picul.	per lb.
Tsatlees.—Red Pagoda 3	507 1/2	11/10 1/2
" Bird Chunling	485	11/7 1/2
" Bird Yungling	475	11/2
" Bird Seeling	465	10/11
" Mountain 3	492 1/2	11/7
" "	477 1/2	11/2 1/2
" "	465	10/11
" Gold Lion	470	11/2 1/2
" Silver Double Elephant	457 1/2	10/9
" Gold Killing	455	10/8 1/2
" Chay Killing	432 1/2	10/2
" Blue Phoenix	453 1/2	10/8
" Yacon ay Seeling	450	10/7
" Hemtah Stork Chayling	430	10/1 1/2
Taysam.—9 by 2 Moss, Double Butterfly 3	39 1/2	9/3 1/2
Skens.—Blue Monster	352 1/2	8 1/2
Yellow Silk.—Mienchew 1	355	8 1/2
" Foojung 3	275 a 297 1/2	6 7/8 a 6/10 1/2
" Wongchow	270 a 275 1/2	6 6/8 a 6/7 1/2
" Szechow	217 1/2	5 1/4
Steam Filature.—First Choice,	785 a 800	15/10 a 16/2 1/2
Hand Filature.—Red Eagle 1	570	13 1/2
Wild Silk.—Tussah Raw	40 a 180	3/6 1/2 a 4 1/2

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	23,670	25,480
Canton	10,317	9,134
Yokohama	5,638	2,044
Total	39,625	36,658

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	1,938	3,328
Canton	4,083	4,540
Yokohama	4,580	3,285
Total	10,601	11,153

#### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—The weakness in this market continues and prices are declining. Quotations for Fomosa are \$42.50 to \$42.75 Sales, 270 piculs.

#### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—The market continues active and a further advance in rates has to be reported. Quotations are:—Shekloong, No. 1, White... 7.57 to 7.60 per picul. do. " 2, White... 7.36 to 7.40 " Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 5.99 to 5.05 " do. " 2, Brown... 1.99 to 4.94 " Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.45 to 7.50 " do. " 1, White... 7.25 to 7.30 " Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.85 to 4.90 " do. " 2, Brown... 4.80 to 4.85 " Foochow Sugar Candy... 11.50 to 11.54 " Shekloong " 11.00 to 11.05 "

#### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Aztec*, sailed on the 12th Sept. For San Francisco:—1,014 packages tea. For Chicago:—500 packages tea from Amoy, and 10,111 packages from Foochow. For San Francisco:—17 cases silk goods. For Acapulco:—1 case silk goods. For Champerico:—1 case silk goods. For Peneta Arenas:—2 cases silk goods. For Panama:—4 cases silk goods. For Guayaquil:—3 cases silk goods. For Whitehall:—50 bales waste silk. For New York:—150 bales waste silk, and 120 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Liv*, sailed on the 13th Sept. For New York:—1,697 bales hemp, 1,546 packages merchandise, 450 rolls matting, 59 cases Chinaware, 14 cases blackwoodware, 25 cases paper, 50 cases bristles, 20 cases human hair, 1 case ironware, and 2 cases essential oil.

Per steamer *Dardanus*, sailed on the 19th September. For London:—6,229 boxes tea, 160 packages tea, 2 packages, 635 1/2-chests, and 460 boxes tea from Amoy, 70 cases essential oil, 21 cases cigars, 19 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases



effects, 1,213 cases and 150 casks preserves, 200 bales matting, 2 bales pierced cocoons, and 9 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—125 bales waste silk. For London and/or Glasgow:—150 casks ginger. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—60 cases bristles. For Manchester:—5 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—100 bales mats, 3 packages sundries, and 13 cases preserves. For Glasgow:—250 casks and 50 cases preserves. For Amsterdam:—100 cases ginger, and 1 package sundries. For Odessa:—200 cases cassia lignea, and 22 bales bamboo. For Beyrouth:—20 cases cassia.

Per steamer *Suevia*, sailed on the 19th Sept. For Trieste:—20 boxes essential oil, and 550 cases cassia lignea. For Marseilles and/or Havre and/or Hamburg:—10 cases vermillion, and 34 bales galungal. For Havre:—1 case rice paper, 4 cases China ink, 6 cases gongs, 11 cases blackwoodware, 20 cases Chinaware, 24 cases human hair, 60 bales bambooware, 186 packages canes, and 195 rolls mats. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—8 casks egg yolk, 11 cases Chinaware, 15 cases human hair, 100 cases palm leaf fans, and 100 bales canes. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—8 bales feathers, 10 cases bristles, 20 boxes essential oil, and 100 cases camphor. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—70 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—1 case silk, 1 case oil, 2 cases cymbals, 3 cases glassware, 5 cases litho. paper, 5 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases China ink, 6 cases cigars, 7 cases preserves, 10 cases camphor trunks, 15 cases essential oil, 10 cases Chinaware, 20 cases bristles, 29 cases feathers, 45 cases palm leaf fans, 4 rolls mats, 56 cases teasticks, 67 bales galungal, 79 bales rattanware, 100 cases camphor, 107 rolls matting, 150 boxes gallants, 566 packages canes, and 4,753 packages tea. For Hamburg and/or Rotterdam and/or Amsterdam:—150 casks preserves. For Rotterdam:—75 cases preserves, and 248 cases cassia lignea. For Amsterdam:—510 packages preserves. For Bremen:—50 cases cassia. For Venice:—100 cases cassia. For Buenos Ayres:—150 packages tea.

Per steamer *Indus*, sailed on the 24th Sept. For France:—768 bales raw silk, 10 cases silk piece goods, 9 cases curios, 10 cases effects, 3 cases woodware, 29 packages hair, 230 packages tea, 1 package rattan, 25 bales waste silk, and 200 bales hemp. For Milan:—65 bales raw silk. For London:—40 bales raw silk, and 2 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—2 bales waste silk, and 2 cases floss silk.

#### OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—Bengal.—The market has continued dull and on the decline. Latest quotations are \$755 for New Patna, and \$735 for New Benares.

Malwa.—Owing to large arrivals this drug has been also neglected and prices have receded, current figures being as follow:—

New (this yr's.) \$720 without allowance.  
Old (2 1/4 yrs.) \$760 with allowance of 1 1/2 to 3 cts.  
" (5/6 " ) \$800 " " nominal  
" (7/8 " ) \$860 " " "

Persian.—This drug also has ruled quiet. Quotations are unchanged, closing at \$550 to \$630 for Oily, and at \$650 to \$740 for Paper-tied Opium, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

	NEW PATNA.	NEW BENARES.	MALWA.
New Patna.....	1,821 chests		
Old Patna.....	62 "		
New Benares.....	334 "		
Old Benares.....	60 "		
Malwa.....	389 "		
Persian.....	191 "		

#### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIMUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Sept. 24	762 1/2	—	745	—	720	—
Sept. 25	762 1/2	—	745	—	720	—
Sept. 26	762 1/2	—	745	—	720	—
Sept. 27	760	—	740	—	720	—
Sept. 28	757 1/2	—	737 1/2	—	720	—
Sept. 29	757 1/2	—	735	—	720	—
Sept. 30	755	—	735	—	720	—

#### COTTON.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—A decline of \$1 to \$1 1/2 per picul induced small sales. Stock, about 6,500 bales.

Bombay .....	\$16.00 to 17.00 picul.
Kurrachee .....	to " "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.....	17.00 to 18.25 "
Shanghai and Japanese.....	19.00 to 19.50 "
Tangchow and Ningpo.....	19.00 to 19.50 "
Madras (Best).....	to " "
Sales: 450 bales Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca.	

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—A further large decline in prices has to be reported. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.20 to 2.25
" Round, good quality.....	2.40 to 2.45
" Long .....	2.70 to 2.75
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 .....	2.25 to 2.30
" Garden, " No. 1 .....	2.75 to 2.80
" White.....	3.80 to 3.85
" Fine Cargo .....	3.95 to 4.00

#### COALS.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—No business doing beyond small retail sales. Quotations are:—

Canthuff .....	\$18.00 to 19.00 ex ship, nominal
Australian.....	10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Milki Lump .....	9.50 to 10.50 nominal
and Small. }	
Moji Lump .....	8.00 to 9.75 ex ship, steady
Hongay Lump .....	12.50 to — nominal.
Hongay Dust.....	5.00 to —
Briquettes .....	10.00 to —

#### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 30th September.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—50 bales No. 8 at \$70, 1,650 bales No. 10 at \$67 to \$87, 500 bales No. 12 at \$75 to \$77, 500 bales No. 16 at \$82 to \$93, 950 bales No. 20 at \$83.50 to \$93. Japanese Yarn.—100 bales No. 20 at \$88. Cotton.—100 bales at \$16. Grey Shirtings.—600 pieces 12 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$4.40, 500 pieces 10 lbs. C. W. W. Syce at \$3.87 1/2, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Dragon at \$3.75. White Shirtings.—250 pieces No. 3 at \$3.52 1/2, 250 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.80, 500 pieces Flower Basket at \$2.75. Drills.—150 pieces 14 lbs. No. 250 at \$3.50.

METALS.—Tin.—100 slabs Foong Chai at \$24.	
COTTON YARN.	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	62.00 to 90.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	104.00 to 110.00
" 22 to 24.....	105.00 to 111.00
" 28 to 32.....	118.00 to 123.00
" 38 to 42.....	127.00 to 132.00

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 1/2 lbs. ....	1.72 to 1.82
7 1/2 lbs. ....	1.97 to 2.05
8 1/2 lbs. ....	2.40 to 3.15
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.30 to 4.10
White Shirtings—5 1/2 to 5 1/2 rd. ....	2.30 to 2.50
5 1/2 to 60 " ..	2.70 to 3.35
6 1/2 to 66 " ..	3.45 to 4.30
Fine .....	4.30 to 7.00
Book-folds.....	3.70 to 5.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards .....	0.64 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6 1/2 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. ....	1.52 to 1.72
7 1/2 lbs. (32 " ) ..	1.80 to 2.10
6 1/2 lbs. (32 " ) Mexs. ....	1.62 to 1.82
7 1/2 lbs. (32 " ) ..	2.05 to 2.75
8 to 8 1/2 oz. (36 in.) ....	2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—10 yds. 13 1/2 to 14 lbs. ....	3.65 to 5.05

#### FANCY COTTONS.

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs. ....	1.50 to 4.85
Brocades—Dyed .....	3.00 to 5.00
Damasks.....	0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted .....	3.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.20 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in. ....	0.17 to 0.18
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk .....	0.45 to 0.90

#### WOOLLENS.

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sandry chops. ....	0.60 to 1.40
German.....	1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. ....	1.25 to 5.25
Long Ells—Scarlet .....	6.50 to 8.50
Assorted .....	6.60 to 8.60
Camlets—Assorted .....	12.50 to 32.50
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted )	11.00 to 20.00
Orleans—Plain .....	7.00 to 8.50

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. ....	per pair 3.50 to 14.00
METALS	

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod .....	3.60 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar .....	3.60 to —
Swedish Bar .....	5.25 to —
Small Round Rod .....	4.15 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.....	5.00 to —
Wire 15/25 .....	8.25 to —
Old Wire Rope .....	1.50 to 2.50
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop .....	8.30 to —
Australian.....	8.20 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. ....	33.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz. ....	31.50 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz. ....	31.50 to —
Composition Nails .....	46.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	30.85 to —
Tiles .....	31.50 to —
Tin .....	— to —
Tin-Plates .....	per box 5.90 to —
Steel 1/2 to 1/2 .....	per cwt. case 5.25 to —

#### SUNDRIES.

	per picul
Quicksilver .....	125.00 to —
Window Glass .....	per box 4.55 to —
Kerosene Oil .....	per 10-gal. cases 1.87 to —

SHANGHAI, 30th September.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report) The persistent firmness of Exchange has had the effect of discouraging buyers this week and prices continue declining, even the native holders finding it difficult to place their goods. Operators find themselves well supplied with most of their present requirements at fully 10 per cent. over current rates, almost entirely owing to the advance in Exchange, and, fearful of a further rise thereby intensifying their existing troubles, are simply doing a hand to mouth business, which naturally makes little or no impression on the general trade. The approach of the Autumn settling day, which falls on the 30th inst., is made the excuse for some of the apathy shown, but doubtless it is of more importance in the country than here, and so may, to some extent, be taken as an explanation of the paucity of orders. There are other reasons at work, however, one being the continued dearth of money and lack of credit, and the other, which is affecting the market more particularly at the close, the very serious and threatening political outlook. The Auctions, even before the news of the present complications came to hand showed a serious decline in prices and clearances have fallen off again. The position of the market is well defined by the numerous claims that are now being brought forward for alleged inferiority of quality, and other faked up causes. There is no improvement to report in the market for Yarn, Indian continuing in a very depressed state, with arrivals much in excess of the settlements, although prices in Hongkong are above those at present current here. Japanese spinings are being taken fairly well for Tientsin at steady prices, and there is a better demand for the local Yarns for export, some 1,500 bales packed for shipment being sold this week out of a total of 2,300 bales. There was an attempt at a strike amongst the operatives of some of the Mills early in the week on account of the inauguration of the system of paying wages on the production, instead of a fixed sum per diem, but it was nipped in the bud and the new plan promises soon to be a success. Cotton is a little dearer this week, nominally Tls. 13.50 for best Machine ginned, but with firm offers Tls. 13.30 would probably be accepted. Seed Cotton is quoted \$6 to \$6.50. The farmers are now selling Rice and holding Cotton.

METALS, 6th September.—(From Messrs. Alex. Belfield & Co.'s Report.—Beyond the transactions given below, all of which, except Cart Tires, were for the Arsenal, not a single order has been booked. Several small lots for Tientsin have been countermanded, and to still further complicate matters, one small dealer, with many orders booked, has done the "vanishing act," to the great detriment of all. The following has been done:—200 tons Gartsherrie Pig Iron, No. 1 at 82s; 103 tons Gartsherrie Pig Iron, No. 3 at 78s; 50 tons W. H. Remelted Spelter £22.10.0 150 tons Cart Tires at 10s.

#### EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 30th September.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand .....	1/11 1/2



Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50 1/2
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.99
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	48 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146 1/2
Bank, on demand	147
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	146 1/2
Bank, on demand	147
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	4 1/2 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.08
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.00

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 30th Sept.—Business during the week under review has been a little quieter. Rates have ruled from steady to strong and generally speaking buyers have been more in evidence than sellers.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled quiet and steady with small sales at 215 and 214 per cent. prem. cash, and at 225 per cent. prem. for January 31st. Market closes with further small buyers at 214 cash. Nationals have again changed hands at 17.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been freely offered at \$63, and later at \$62 1/2, without leading to business. The report just issued recommends a dividend of \$3 and taking \$100,000 from Reserve Fund. Unions have found buyers at \$215 cum div. of \$17 just recommended for payment by the directors. Cantons have been negotiated in a small way at \$130. Straits and the Northern Insurances continue neglected at quotations and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—The market continues dead and without any sales to report, but Hongkongs have fallen to \$325 and Chinas to \$92 1/2.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have further improved their position to \$27 after fair sales at \$26, \$26 1/2, and \$26 3/4. Indo-Chinas have been enquired for at \$56 and \$57 without bringing out any shares. Douglasses continue on offer at \$52 ex dividend without finding buyers. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been in steady demand and the rate has advanced to \$157 almost without sales. Luzons unchanged and neglected at quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms have found small buyers at \$5.25, Raubs at \$36 and \$36 1/2, New Balmoral Prefs at 65 cents, 60 cents, 55 cents, and 52 1/2 cents, Great Easterus at \$5.75 and \$5.90, and Olivers at \$3.75.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands in fair quantities at 246 and later at 247, whilst a small sale is reported at 248, market closing strong at 247 per cent. premium. Kowloon Wharves after further sales at \$57 close quiet at that rate. Wandchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands with a small demand have improved to \$66 with buyers and a small sale has been effected at \$67. Hotels continue quiet and with a small business at \$53. West Points have found small buyers at \$18 and further shares could be placed at that rate. Humphreys Estates have been negotiated at \$8 1/2.

COTTON MILLS.—No local business to report. Quotations are taken from Shanghai circulars except Hongkong Cottons.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons are enquired for at \$12 1/2 without bringing out sellers, and Fenwicks, Ices, and Trams are enquired for at quotations.

## Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125 214	1/10 prem. =
China & Japan, pref.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£4	£0 10s. 6d.
Do. deferred	£1	£5. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$17
Founders Shares	£1	\$17, sales & buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$157, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Hongkong	\$70	\$50
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 88
Lau Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 85
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 4.5
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 60
Dairy Farm Co.	\$1	\$1.3
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$9, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$2, sellers
Do. New Issue	\$1	\$16, sellers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$125, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$8, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$12, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$53, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$108, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$67, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$162, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	24, p. et. prem. =
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$130, sal. & buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$62, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$3.5, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$3, sellers
Union	\$50	\$215, sal. & buyer
Yangtze	\$60	\$129
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$67, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17 1/2
West Point Building	\$40	\$58, sal. & buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$43
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce. 500	\$10, sellers
Great E. & C. Olan	\$1	\$1
Jalebu	\$5	\$125, buyers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$30 etc.
Do. Preference	\$1	\$10 etc., buyers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$3, sellers
Do. B.	\$25	\$3.75, sales
Punjom	\$5	\$25, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.5
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$36 1/2
New Amoy Dock	\$5	\$23, buyers
Steamship Co.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$78
China Mutual Ord.	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Do. Preference	\$10	\$5 10s.
Do. Do.	\$5	\$2 1/2
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$5	\$5, ex div. sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$27, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$57, buyers
Star Ferry	\$1	\$9, sales & buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$5	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11.25, buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 26th September.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—Business was a little better this week. The course of the market has been characterised by an improvement in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares, and a steady decline in the price of Cotton Mill shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Business was done at 208 to 210 per cent. premium for cash and 113 per cent. for the 31st October. Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were placed to Hongkong at \$25.75, with exchange 72.75. Indo-China S. N. shares are wanted at Tls. 40. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares changed hands at Tls. 70. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 40. China Sugar Refining shares changed hands at \$157. Luzons are wanted at \$12, and are held for \$43. Mining.—Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were sold at \$35 at \$33.50. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. were placed at Tls. 185. S. C. Farnham & Co. shares changed hands at Tls. 155. Shanghai Engineering, Shipbuilding & Dock Co. shares have been sold at Tls. 78. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares

changed hands at Tls. 115, and are wanted. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 80 to Tls. 82. Hongkong Land Investment shares are wanted at \$66. Industrial.—Cotton Mills.—Ewo shares were sold at Tls. 80, International's at Tls. 90 for cash and for the end of the month, at Tls. 89 and Tls. 87 for October, and Tls. 89 for November; Laon-kung-mows at Tls. 85, and Yah Loongs, at Tls. 55. China Flour Mill shares changed hands at Tls. 51, and American Cigarette shares at Tls. 70. Tug & Cargo Boats.—The Shanghai Tug Boat Co. paid a second Interim Dividend of 5 per cent. on the 24th inst. Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were placed at Tls. 165. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were dealt in at Tls. 66 cash, Tls. 69 and 168 for December, Tls. 72.50 to 72 for February, and Tls. 74 to 72 for March. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 130 cash and Tls. 110 for the 31st October. There are sellers for cash. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 60. Loans.—Chinese Imperial Government Loan Bonds, issue E, were sold at Tls. 230, and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 100.50.

## Quotations are:—

## BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$390.00.  
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—£5.5.0  
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.  
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.00.  
COTTON MILLS,  
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.  
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—45.00.  
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 86.00.  
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 85.00.  
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 450.00.  
DOCKS, WHARVES, & C.,  
Boyl & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
Boyl & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.  
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$62.  
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$43.25.  
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 155.00.  
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 78.00.  
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 115.00.

## INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$130.00.  
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$96.00.  
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$63.00.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$330.00.  
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00.  
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$9.00.  
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$220.  
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$130.

## LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$66.  
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8 1/2.  
Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 82.00.

## MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$5.50.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.60.  
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$35 1/2.  
Sieridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.25.

## SHIPPING.

China Mutual preference.—Tls. 70.00.  
Do. ordinary, 25 paid.—Tls. 23.00.  
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145.00.  
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$59.  
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$24.50.  
Indo China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.  
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 165.00.  
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.00.  
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.

## SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$157.00.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$41.  
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 70.00.  
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.25.  
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 51.00.  
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$38.00.  
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$61.00.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Benlarig (str.), Alesia (str.), Manila (str.), Ballarat (str.), Antenor (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Formosa (str.).  
For BREMEN.—Darmstadt (str.).  
For MARSEILLES.—Tamba Maru (str.), Laos (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Belgie (str.).  
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).  
For VICTORIA, B. C.—Olympia (str.).  
For TACOMA.—Olympia (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—Indravelli (str.), Prince Arthur, Macduff (str.), Governor Robie, Adolph Orbig, Paul Revere, Josephus, Mary E. Cushing.  
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Wittenberg (str.), Nurnberg (str.).  
For AUSTRALIA.—Tsinan (str.).  
For SEATTLE.—Riojun Maru (str.).



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

September—

## ARRIVALS.

- 23, City of Puebla, Amr. str., from Manila.  
 23, Chw'nsan, British str., from Bangkok.  
 24, Taiyuan, British str., from Kobe.  
 24, Independent, German str., from Manila.  
 24, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.  
 24, Sultan, British str., from Hongay.  
 24, Kong Beng, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 24, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from Manila.  
 24, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 24, Glenfarg, British str., from S. Francisco.  
 24, Hupeh, British str., from Sourabaya.  
 24, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.  
 25, Daphne, German str., from Nagasaki.  
 25, Canton, British str., from Canton.  
 25, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.  
 25, Kintuck, British str., from Liverpool.  
 26, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.  
 26, Wakasa Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.  
 26, Andalusia, German str., from Hamburg.  
 26, Matsuyama Maru, Jap. str., from S'pore.  
 26, Frejr, Danish str., from Haiphong.  
 26, Namyang, British str., from Singapore.  
 26, Glenogle, British str., from London.  
 26, Cathay, Danish str., from Shanghai.  
 27, Fausang, British str., from Moji.  
 27, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.  
 27, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 27, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.  
 27, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.  
 23, Tailee, German str., from Manila.  
 28, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.  
 28, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 28, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.  
 28, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.  
 28, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 28, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 28, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 28, Ixion, British str., from Amoy.  
 28, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.  
 28, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.  
 28, Siegfried, German str., from Saigon.  
 28, Culgoa, Belgian str., from Manila.  
 28, Zweena, British str., from Samarang.  
 29, St. Paul, Amr. str., from Manila.  
 29, Liberal, Portuguese g-bl., from Macao.  
 29, Foochow, British str., from Moji.  
 29, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Bangkok.  
 29, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Moji.  
 29, Pigmy, British g-bl., from Macao.  
 29, Cheang H. Kian, British str., from S'pore.  
 30, Ballarat, British str., from Shanghai.  
 30, Parramatta, British str., from Bombay.  
 30, Tsinan, British str., from Moji.  
 30, Nanchang, British str., from Tongku.  
 30, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.  
 30, Guthrie, British str., from Sydney.  
 30, Nord, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.  
 30, Hongkong, French str., put back.  
 30, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.  
 30, Bonaventure, British str., from Weihaiwei.  
 30, China, German str., from Saigon.  
 30, Manila, British str., from Shanghai.  
 30, Kaohidate Maru, Jap str., from K'notzu.  
 September— DEPARTURES.  
 24, Indus, French str., for Europe &c.  
 24, Petrol, Amr. gunboat, for Manila.  
 24, Brindisi, British str., for Bombay.  
 24, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kuchinotzu.  
 24, John Sanderson, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Knight Templar, British str., for Calcutta.  
 24, Silesia, German str., for Saigon.  
 25, Bollerophon, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 25, Brand, Norw. str., for Singapore.  
 25, Ebani, British str., for Singapore.  
 25, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.  
 25, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 25, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 25, Mongkut, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 25, Kelat, British ship, for New York.  
 17, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.  
 26, Activ, Danish str., for Lloilo.  
 26, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., for Nagasaki.  
 26, City of Puebla, Amr. str., for Nagasaki.  
 26, Morgan City, British str., for S. Francisco.  
 26, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.  
 26, Yamashiro Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.  
 26, Penobscot, Amr. bark, for Boston.  
 26, Liberal, Portuguese g-bl., for Macao.  
 27, Canton, British str., for Ningpo.  
 27, Kintuck, British str., for Shanghai.

- 27, Konaura Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.  
 27, Kong Beng, British str., for Swatow.  
 27, Namyang, British str., for Amoy.  
 27, Pakhoi, British str., for Taiwanfoo.  
 27, Socotra, British str., for London.  
 27, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.  
 27, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.  
 27, Taiwan, British str., for Swatow.  
 27, Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.  
 27, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.  
 27, Iphigenia, British cruiser, for Shanghai.  
 28, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Tourn.  
 28, Elise, German str., for Bangkok.  
 28, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.  
 28, Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.  
 28, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for V'couver.  
 28, Machew, British str., for Hoihow.  
 28, Andalusia, German str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Hupeh, British str., for Cheribon.  
 28, Pakhoi, British str., for Taiwanfoo.  
 28, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.  
 29, Glenogle, British str., for Shanghai.  
 29, Frejr, Danish str., for Haiphong.  
 29, Culgoa, Belgian str., for Sydney.  
 29, Sultan, British str., for Hongay.  
 29, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 29, Cathry, Danish str., for Bangkok.  
 29, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 29, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.  
 29, Deucalion, British str., for Sandakan.  
 29, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 29, Hailoong, British str., for Amoy.  
 30, Siam, British str., for Swatow.  
 30, Sishan, British str., for Amoy.  
 30, Rio, German str., for Kiaochau.  
 30, Fausang, British str., for Amoy.  
 30, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.  
 30, Ichang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 30, Ixion, British str., for London.  
 30, Matsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
 30, Sendai Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.  
 30, St. Paul, Amr. str., for Nagasaki.  
 30, Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
 30, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

- Per *Flintshire*, from London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Sheffield and 4 children.  
 Per *Yamashiro Maru*, from Melbourne, &c., Rev. D. Duff, Messrs. C. W. Lindsay, D. Maclean, and Goham Glasius.  
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mrs. Luisa Fernandez, Mrs. Marguerita Santos, Mrs. Garcia and son, Mrs. Canoidu Fernandez and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Vicente Rodrigu, and 1 child, Messrs. Jose Lupap and 3 children, E. Decher, E. Arejas, R. Juincuey, Dunlop, M. J. Black, W. Barrole, W. Smith, E. Montigo, F. Duran, F. Rabise, and Zeckel, Capt. Ellis.  
 Per *Kong Beng*, from Tai-wan-fu, Misses Montgomery, Schaeffer, Messrs. W. Duncan and S. D. Ollia.  
 Per *Glenfarg*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. W. E. Dunn, and Miss McGaki.  
 Per *Chelydra*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Lim Thye Ngee, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Nam Chong and 513 Chinese.  
 Per *Wakasa Maru*, from Kobe, Mr. D. Goh, Mr. and Mrs. Hasegawa, Messrs. G. Kowaki, F. J. Tarsney, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnet, and Mr. J. Nagar.  
 Per *Glenogle*, for Hongkong, from London, Capt. A. W. Bewley, R.A.M.C., Lt. A. R. Izal, R.A., Second Lieuts. O. C. Niven, R.A., T. M. Wakefield, R.A., G. Badham Thornhill, R.A., and R. G. Thompson, R.A.; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald and two children, Mrs. Draper and infant, Miss Bollingham, Messrs. Hooking, Gough and Pomeroy, Capt. Fuller.  
 Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mrs. Roux Guy, and Mr. Papier; from Colombo, Mr. Desgardins; from Singapore, Messrs. Otto Gniir, Palmer, Pears, Kader Bacha, Lian Hin, and Lo Heng; from Saigon, Sister St. Jean and Mr. Miguel. For Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Clossen, Geerts, Sisters Richon, Halonick, and Heliot, Mr. Boehme, Mr. and Mrs. Felitzine, and Miss Sophie Ornar; from Singapore, Mr. A. J. Thackwell; from Saigon, Brother Emerie Victorin, and Mr. Matteo Vucolitch. For Kobe from Singapore, Messrs. Pieper, Shibuya, Nakagawa, and G. Shibuya. For Yokohama from Marseilles, Messrs. Kleinknecht and Camille Wenger; from Singapore, Mr. Hayashi.

Per *Tokio Maru*, from Yokohama, &c., Mrs. W. C. Price, Mrs. H. Brayton, Misses J. R. and S. M. Nicholson, and Mr. J. Penrose.  
 Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Pinckney and Davis.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Beurmann, Messrs. Koff, Apik, and Eckermann and 125 Chinese.

Per *Rishilla*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson and Miss E. B. Sale; from Kobe, Messrs. To E Kwan, A Shong, A Tong and Mrs. Wing Sang and child; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Ching Hang, Chang Fook Mong and Sow Ching. For Singapore, from Yokohama, Capt. Longhurst.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Darmstadt*, for Shanghai from Bremen, Messrs. Wilh. Fuhr, G. Schneider and family, and Friedr. Reiber; from Southampton, Mr. Dorey, and Mrs. T. Smith; from Antwerp, Mr. T. W. H. Ferguson; from Genoa, Mr. Bergenop, Mr. F. Koerfer, Director Messing, Messrs. H. Spaethe, and E. Wiewelts; from Naples, Major Durr, Mr. P. Baumann, Rev. E. Lund and Rev. Lindstrom; from Hongkong, Messrs. C. M. Tensing, H. S. Cooke, E. C. Hochappel, Consul Heinze, Mr. Fo Shen Sun, Mrs. Watson, and Mr. Theo. Duster.

Per *Hohenzollern*, for Yokohama from Southampton, Mr. T. Langton Wilkinsen; from Hongkong, Mr. Cheun Sen Sing and child, Messrs. J. Goosmann and R. P. Dipple. For Kobe from Antwerp, Mr. C. Verhoeven.

Per *Indus*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Capt. de Bourdonnel, Mr. and Mrs. Da Hang, Rev. Leprince; for Singapore, Messrs. Ed. Carr, J. Ezra, E. Ezra, Wan Sing, Choo Sing Kee, Bro. Costeros; for Marseilles, Colonel Garces, Lieut. Montojo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ruff, Messrs. C. de Premal, J. Soldevila, F. B. Machado, J. C. Anternes, H. Hygom, F. Poch, J. L. le Caria, P. Feiguerez, J. Mayans, P. Martinez, Luez, L. de Vasconcellos, J. Domingos, J. Pereira, F. Robiol, M. Canti, W. Y. Carrola, F. Duran, Mrs. A. Guter, Misses R. Neubrunn, E. Neubrunn, Richtma, and Rudolphe. For Saigon from Kobe, Mr. Kida; for Singapore from Kobe, Mr. Hashimoto; for Colomb from Yokohama, Capt. J. H. Loch; for Suez from Shanghai, Mr. J. H. Iskloff; for Port Said from Nagasaki, Mrs. Kostromitcheff; for Marseilles from Shanghai, Messrs. Michelot, Chollott Creemeas, Mackintosh, Conillandre, Kerampran, and Mrs. F. B. Walker; from Yokohama, Mr. J. V. Dupas; from Kobe, Messrs. Baguez, G. A. Marok, C. Chaumartin, A. Calder, Thompson, and Ch. Draby.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Miss F. P. Felices, Mrs. M. Hernandez and son, Messrs. J. H. Holden, S. Celis, Y. Celis, J. Herchan, P. Ryes, L. Almeida, Reid, Mrs. San Augustin, Mr. Wegselin, Mr. Geo. Sterling, Mr. and Mrs. Rapol and 3 children, Mrs. P. Hoffman, Messrs. Chas. C. Perry and Edward Lind.

Per *Yamashiro Maru*, from Sydney for Yokohama, Mr. T. J. Thompson, Commander Matsui, and Mr. J. Matsui Saki.

Per *Taiyuan*, str., for Sydney, Miss Harvey, Messrs. R. Walker, French, M. N. Mackinnon, C. W. and W. B. Du Pre, Master Arnold; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Walker.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, for Singapore, Dr. A. Agassiz, Miss Penruddocke, Mr. Moares, Mr. H. Crude, Mr. Ho Chong Ting, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Alonzo and 2 children, and Miss Alonzo.

Per *Empress of Japan*, for Shanghai, Mrs. J. Loureiro and child, Mrs. Loureiro and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodnow, Messrs. J. Ellorhorpe, F. H. Xavier, Huy Sam Po, Kong Sin Tsuin, Wong Jau Chiu, Mr. and Mrs. Choy Pat Ho; for Nagasaki, Mrs. H. G. del Castillo; Mr. T. H. Whitehead; for Kobe, Mrs. Gillette, Mr. H. Gillette, Mr. Lindsay; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Wheeley, Capt. Berger, Messrs. Roth, Havre J. Droeze, and R. H. Wood; for Portland (Or.), Mrs. Lum Fung Lin and son; for Rochester (N.Y.), Mrs. Lee Yuen; for London, Mrs. M. T. Egbert and child, Rev. R. S. Duff, Messrs. D. Macleay and J. C. Angus.

Per *Sydney*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Messrs. J. W. Lee, E. H. Krol, and J. G. de Souza; for Nagasaki, Messrs. John Andrew and Osato; for Yokohama, Messrs. T. M. G. da Cruz, A. J. Joosub.

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